Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-89-159 *18 August 1989*

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Cuba

Official Discusses Visa Denial to Reporters

FL1708153089 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Aug 89

["Exclusive" interview with Jose Ramon Fernandez Alvarez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, by reporter identified only as Pantoja, place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Pantoja] Well, Fernandez, we at Radio Progreso are very happy to have been able to contact you. The listeners and fans of our national sport, baseball, should know the situation we are going through with regard to the Puerto Rico games we are supposed to participate in. The situation has caused all kinds of reaction because of the U.S. State Department's denial of visas to Cuban reporters who were going to cover this baseball event from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Fernandez, what is the latest news we can give our listeners regarding this matter?

[Fernandez Alvarez] The situation is the same. The team is in good physical condition. Late last night, I also spoke with the team's technical managers. The team practiced yesterday in Caguas. They are eager to play, and they are in good physical condition.

[Pantoja] Yes, they are enthusiastic.

[Fernandez Alvarez] Naturally. They are also in good technical condition, and they have great enthusiasm and spirit. Naturally, their participation depends on the final decision that the U.S. State Department makes. We still have not made our final decision. Journalists, press and sports organizations have expressed a lot of solidarity with Cuba's position. Today, in a little while, the executives of the International Baseball Association, IBA, are going to meet. IBA is the world organization that manages this sport and the one that hosts the cup. During the meeting, at a certain point on the agenda, Cuba will present its protest and demands regarding this improper imperialistic action of not granting visas to Cuban reporters and technicians. In this sense, [words indistinct] has been denounced in other countries.

[Pantoja] Yes, naturally.

[Fernandez Alvarez] Pantoja, we have heard that the Federation of Journalists, and other countries have protested this action. We really think that imperialism's decision to deny the visas is a very stupid action. First of all, we have have always granted visas to all those who come here. In other words, we have done it in the basic spirit of reciprocity, the spirit of sports ethics, and respect. Thus, the visitors can perform at their best, and their people can see the action of the team that represents them. They can also get the commentaries and interpretation of the action which often cannot be seen on the television cameras, nor can it be heard with the exclusive description of the play. The reporters are in the midst of everything that involves the game. You know that Cuba has a very special, useful style, I would say a very advanced style for narrating baseball games.

[Pantoja] Yes, naturally. The technique is very advanced.

[Fernandez Alvarez] We have a certain tradition in this area. Therefore, it does not make any sense that our team, which is a world power in baseball, is in Puerto Rico representing us and that the Cuban people do not have full access to seeing, hearing, and listening to commentaries as the event unfolds—not only Cuba's team but the others as well. This is a very bad precedent for sports events.

[Pantoja] Of course.

[Fernandez Alvarez] Pantoja, as you know, Cuba has always practiced good sportsmanship, which must include friendship, solidarity, and respect. The Cuban people have a sports culture, I would say.

[Pantoja] We have always placed sports above any kind of ideological differences.

[Fernandez Alvarez] Naturally. Furthermore, when a team comes here, regardless of its nationality—even if it is from a country whose government we do not sympathize with, or one with which we do not have relations—one should note how the Cuban audience applauds and recognizes the feats at the sports event. This is the essence of sports events. So, my friend, it does not make any sense that the United States brings into this its dirty blockade and the hostility it has expressed for decades and decades. This is something truly irrational.

[Pantoja] No, it does not make any sense. And as you were saying Fernandez, we have been abreast of all the cables, and we have seen that several journalists and personalities have been repudiating this hostile action against us. After all, this is also a hostile action against sports and against what you said: brotherhood and healthy competition among people in the Caribbean. In this case, specifically, we aspire to play in Puerto Rico.

[Fernandez Alvarez] Yes, but note something else. A large part of the aggression is directed against the people of Puerto Rico.

[Pantoja] Of course.

[Fernandez Alvarez] Puerto Rico has its own Olympic committee. Puerto Rico is aspiring to host future Olympic Games. Puerto Rico sends its teams to represent it. So, the U.S. State Department, the imperial entity, prevents the Olympic committee, the authorities, and the people of Puerto Rico from welcoming and receiving in a friendly way, and from being proper hosts to those who want to visit them. In other words, it is also an aggression, not only against Cuba, but also against the

rights of the people of Puerto Rico. The Puerto Ricans see the oppression of their desire to receive, as brothers, their Caribbean neighbors who want to participate with the Cubans in this event.

[Pantoja] Not only that, according to this morning's news, the State Department also denied visas to the Dominican Republic's team.

[Fernandez Alvarez] The prepotent gendarmes of the empire think they have the right to do as they please in the world. As you know, because of the economic situation which exists in the Dominican Republic, a group of athletes deserted in Indianapolis. Also, Pantoja, another group recently deserted in Puerto Rico. I think it was three people.

[Pantoja] That is right, it was three people.

[Fernandez Alvarez] The State Department, so that people would not enter the country in a clandestine manner, is not granting Dominicans a visa and is preventing the team from playing. However, it does not bother the State Department for Cubans to enter. They would also like, simply as an act of political aggression and hostility, that all the Cuban athletes desert and stay there. That, they would accept.

[Pantoja] Of course.

[Fernandez Alvarez] This is the deceitfulness and the face of imperialism, Pantoja.

[Pantoja] That is right. Well, Fernandez, we thank you very much for having given us this opportunity to speak with you. We also thank you for letting our listeners know our official position on this. However, they are already convinced of our position regarding all these U.S. aggressions. So, I reiterate our gratitude on behalf of Radio Progreso for giving us this opportunity to speak with you.

[Fernandez Alvarez] I thank you, Pantoja.

Havana Notes CPSU Stance on Nationalities

FL1708185989 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] The CPSU today stated its position on the problem of nationalities in the USSR and called for a radical transformation of the federation and the clear delimitation of the rights of the republics and the center [as heard].

The National Policy of the Party Under the Current Conditions: CPSU Platform, is the name of the extensive document which acknowledges the validity of the original principles of the Soviet State but cites the need to correct deformities and injustices committed after the 1924 death of the founder of the new country, Vladimir Illich Lenin.

Eagerly awaited, because it is a decisive step in preparation for an upcoming CPSU plenum on the burning topic of nationalities, the evaluation stresses the extraordinarily acute nature of the topic and acknowledges that the solution to the problem is of immense significance to the country's future and to the restructuring process.

In recognition of Leninist principles, the document states that these led to industrialization, the elimination of underdevelopment in entire areas, and a balance between the people's economy and social development, which created an integral economic complex and development conditions out of national idiosyncracies.

The CPSU evaluation attacks what it calls the system of supply and demand and erroneous theoretical statements on the accelerated rapprochement of nations, a later restriction made on the autonomy of the republics, and a decrease in national diversity. It particularly criticizes what it describes as massive repression and the transfer of entire groups of peoples from the regions where they have traditionally resided, including Turks, Kalmucks, Kurds, Germans, Greeks, Koreans, (?Karachy), Balkars, Chechens, Crimean Tatars, and Ingush.

The CPSU gives as solutions, first of all, the establishment of an optimum correlation between the rights of the federated republics and the union, based on the precise determination of their abilities and reciprocal obligations, their self-management, and the self-financing of federated unions.

Without mentioning them by name, the CPSU rejects the positions assumed by the Estonian legislature and warns that all citizens of a republic are at the same time citizens of the USSR which makes it unacceptable to grant privileges or limit rights based on length of residency, nationality, religion, or language. That detail opposes, in principle, the Estonian constitutional reform which restricts the right to vote or be elected based on length of residency in that republic, which has already led to a strike that is still in effect on the part of the nonautochthonous population.

The document supports the tendency that emerged during the past few years in the Soviet Union that is aimed at preserving national cultures and languages and expanding the rights of autonomous republics, regions, and localities, and it plans to give attention to the situation of the small groups of peoples in the North, Siberia, and the Far East, in accordance with demands made by these ethnic groups.

Parallel to these positions, the CPSU makes a theoretical and ideological evaluation of the problem and stresses the incompatiblity between internationalism and chauvinism and considers it unacceptable to substitute liberty for anarchy and violence. The CPSU platform also presents a clear working agenda for the CPSU plenum

that will meet on this topic in September so that it can legally establish the dividing line between increased national awareness and chauvinism.

Possible Coalition Formation in Poland Noted

FL1708140889 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Reports from Warsaw indicate that the Democratic and United Peasant Parties have agreed to establish a government coalition in Poland with the Solidarity trade union movement. The initiative was formulated by Lech Walesa [Solidarity leader]. According to the POLISH PRESS AGENCY, the two parties, historically allied to the Polish United Workers Party, PZPR, found this proposal to be in the best interests of society and the Polish state.

According to PRENSA LATINA, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh described the new proposal to form a coalition government as reasonable.

Other reports indicate that Walesa, after proposing the government coalition with Solidarity, expressed doubts about becoming Poland's prime minister, although he added that his decision was not yet final.

Castro Meets With Sudanese Revolutionary Leader

FL1708203989 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1932 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Dr John Garang, chairman of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, who is visiting our country. Dr Garang talked about the heroic struggle of the Sudanese people against the military junta imposed by force in Khartoum. He also talked about the conditions proposed by the movement he leads for a peaceful solution and to achieve a united, democratic, and progressive Sudan.

Subjects related to the current international situation were also discussed during the meeting between the leader of the Cuban revolution and Dr John Garang, especially the situation in Africa and Latin America. The meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere. Also participating in the meeting for the Cuban part was Jorge Risquet, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat.

Castro Protests UNITA Killing of Cuban Troops

FL1808115189 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Council of State, has sent a letter to Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General, in which he expresses his concerns over the serious nature of the events that occurred on 14 February [as heard] in the People's Republic of Angola.

That morning, a group of between 15 and 20 armed members of the subversive forces of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] ambushed a Cuban truck 24 km north of Cubal, Benguela Province. First they wounded and then they brutally murdered six Cuban military members who were traveling through the area fulfilling daily supply tasks that were not related to combat activities.

Fidel's message says that in view of this action, the Government of Cuba will act in such a way as to guarantee the safety of its combatants in the People's Republic of Angola. The note says that in fulfilling our commitments, as we have rigorously been doing, no one should have any doubt that we will not tolerate attacks or hostile acts against our troops. As a result, continues the note, we reserve the right to respond to these provocations, when necessary, with all our strength.

Our commander in chief's letter to the UN secretary general places the political and moral responsibility on the U.S. Government for these detestable acts which, in clear violation of the spirit of the 1988 December agreements, continues to materially support the UNITA bands.

In denouncing this act with profound indignation, Cuba warns about the severe consequences that could result from criminal and irresponsible actions, such as the ones of 14 August [as heard], which could adversely influence the fulfillment of the timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from the People's Republic of Angola.

The letter from our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, to Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations, concludes with this request: Please distribute this letter as an official document of the UN Security Council.

Malmierca Meets With Egypt's President Mubarak

FL1808011389 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today. They discussed the Namibian independence, among other matters. Mubarak is the current president of the OAU. He also discussed with Malmierca the increased involvement of the nonaligned countries in the solution of international problems.

The Cuban foreign minister also met with his Egyptian counterpart 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. The two foreign ministers talked about the preparations for the next Nonaligned Movement summit meeting to be held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia in September.

Colombian Trade Delegation Arrives for Talks

FL1708114289 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] A delegation representing the National Federation of Colombian Merchants has arrived in Havana. They were received at the airport by Julio Garcia Olivera, president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce.

More than 30 representatives from trade firms in various Colombian cities comprise the delegation, which is headed by Sabas Pretelt de la Vega. The merchants will meet with officials from the Cuban Chamber of Commerce and other national organizations. The delegation's agenda also includes a visit to the Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Center and EXPOCUBA.

Crombet Greets 150 Internationalists Upon Return

FL1708132289 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Proud at having honorably fulfilled their internationalist mission in the People's Republic of Angola, more than 150 combatants recently returned to our fatherland.

Jaime Crombet, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, welcomed the group of internationalists. Fourteen of the combatants wear the Combatant, First Class Medal; 139 of them have the same medal, second class. One of the internationalists bears the Ignacio Agramonte Medal while another combatant holds the Ernesto Che Guevara Order. One of the returning internationalists in the group wears the Defense of Cuito Cuanavale Medal on his chest while 51 combatants have earned the Revolutionary Armed Forces Distinguished Service Medal. All of the internationalists have received the Cuba-Angola Victory Medal.

The brave combatants were also welcomed back by Brigade General Anibal Velaz Suarez, as well as other leaders.

AALAPSO Condemns Plans To Create TV Marti

FL1808020589 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0146 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] The Executive Secretariat of the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] has condemned the plans announced by Washington to establish an anti-Cuban television station at the end of the year. In a public communique, AALAPSO says that along with the subversive attempt, the United States implemented new measures to broaden the economic blockade against Cuba.

It also notes that with this threatening precedent for Third World countries, Washington violates the International Telecommunications Union treaty signed in Nairobi in 1982 by 132 countries. Finally, the AALAPSO document states that if a television station against Cuba is created, this action could be used against other African, Asian, and Latin American countries in the future.

Barbados

Canadian Official Arrives for 3-Day Visit

FL1708234589 Bridgetown CANA in English 2237 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Aug 17, CANA—Canada's minister for external relations and international development, Monique Landry, arrived in Barbados on Thursday [17 August] afternoon on a three-day visit, largely to review the operations of the Canadian High Commission here under its decentralization scheme.

Landry, who is responsible for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will hold discussions with staff at the High Commission on a wide range of issues, a statement from the High Commission said.

Under the decentralization initiative, implemented last September, greater responsibility for the operation of the Canadian Development Programme was transferred from CIDA headquarters in Ottawa to the High Commission in Barbados.

Several new members of staff, both Canadian and Barbadian, joined the High Commission to administer the programme, with the number of Canadians increasing from 17 to 30. Landry is due to pay a courtesy call on prime minister, Erskine Sandiford, on Friday morning. She is also scheduled to visit several Canadian-funded projects, including the gas separation plant and pipeline at the Woodbourne Oilfields in the south east of the island.

Montreal-born Landry, who was first elected to the Canadian Parliament in 1984, is a member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs and is an active member of the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association.

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Appoints New Officials to Cabinet

PA1808041089 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Santo Domingo, 17 Aug (AFP)—Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer has changed five ministers in his cabinet, including the ministers of interior, health, and education, it was reported today in Santo Domingo.

Interior Minister Juan Rafael Peralta was appointed secretary without portfolio and replaced by Manuel Estrada Medina, while Education Minister Pedro Pichardo was appointed adviser to Executive Branch and replaced by Nicolas Almanzar.

Peralta and Almanzar are former militants of the progovernment Social Christian Reformist Party (PRSC).

Balaguer moved the influential Guillermo Caram from the post of technical secretary of the Presidency to minister of finance. The new technical secretary of the Presidency is now the economist Roberto Martinez Villanueva.

In the Public Health Ministry, which has been shaken by a doctors strike that began more than 1 month ago, Balaguer appointed the former director of the Dominican Social Security Institute (IDSS), Dr Rafael Gautreaux. Former health minister, Dr Ney Arias Lora, is now in charge of the IDSS.

The president also dismissed the director of the Dominican Agrarian Institute (IAD), Antonio Manuel Camilo, and replaced him with another agronomist, Candido Vargas.

Balaguer appointed Katiusca Bobea de Brenes to head the Dominican Center for Export Promotion (CEDOPEX).

Other changes include new civilian adjutants, provincial governors, and lower-level posts in the current administration, a little less than 1 year before the general elections.

Trinidad and Tobago

Boats To Help Look for Drug Traffickers

FL1708205589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Aug 17, CANA—The handing over of a fleet of boats to Trinidad and Tobago's Coast Guard Wednesday [16 August] night has put the country in a better position to look for illicit drug traffickers, national security minister, Selwyn Richardson, said.

Richardson officiated at the commissioning of eleven boats which are to become the nucleus of the Coast Guard's marine force. The boats previously belonged to the police, the fire service, and the port authority. The Coast Guard will service all police and fire fighting operations at sea. It will also be better equipped to seek out those involved in illicit drug trafficking and arms dealing, Richardson said.

"It is no secret that much violation of the laws of Trinidad and Tobago occur in the waters surrounding our island," he declared at the ceremony in north west Trinidad.

"We are an island nation of dense tropical vegetation ringed by miles of coastline deeply indented by innumerable small bays and inlets, many of which are inaccessible by road.

"These geographical contours are ideally suited to successful smuggling and frequent reports of sighting of unfamiliar craft in the vicinity of remote bays and mysterious landings under the protection of darkness and rugged terrain have been received from people in rural areas," Richardson remarked. He said these reports have often coincided with the entry into Trinidad and Tobago of illicit arms and ammunition.

El Salvador

Rebel Radio Airs Communique on Bus Fare Hike

PA1708134289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1224 GMT 17 Aug 89

[FMLN communique to the Salvadoran people; date not given]

[Text] Regarding the bus fare hike, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] reports the following:

First, the bus fare hike is unacceptable. We understand that the bus drivers' economic situation is also difficult. However, the pact with the fascist government to increase the bus fare is the easiest way to solve the owners' problems, but it does not solve the users' problems. On the contrary, it exposes the owners to people's protests and to FMLN actions. The large enterprise [words indistinct] the fascist government are the enemies to be confronted and not the users. We view the position of the drivers as positive. They have not increased the bus fare, but have opted to go on strike or adopted measures to demand that the government establish firm control on the price of spare parts.

The FMLN calls on all drivers to seek dialogue and formulas of understanding with the users and the popular movement to struggle to get the government to grant a transportation subsidy, to cut the bus fares and the price of spare parts. We support that struggle.

We call on our urban commands and military forces to conduct sabotage actions against the oligarchic companies that import spare parts. Thus far, the sabotage measures against the buses have only been a warning. We hope that the drivers will reflect on this and organize their actions together with the people. If they maintain their pact with the government, sabotage will hit them full force at the national level.

FMLN, El Salvador, 16 August 1989

Sabotage Knocks Out Power in Central Region

PA1708221489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2005 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] San Salvador, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—It has been officially announced that half of central El Salvador, including parts of the capital city of San Salvador, is experiencing a power outage caused by guerrilla sabotage of the country's electric power system.

The San Salvador Electric Power Company reported today that the power outage was caused by dynamite attacks on the national electric power system and that the outage has affected Chalatenango, San Vicente, and Cabanas Departments, and the capital city of San Salvador.

Various neighborhoods at the northern and southern ends of San Salvador were left without electricity for several hours, causing traffic jams and halting industrial production in those areas.

Guatemala

Cerezo Views Meeting With Mexican President

PA1708171289 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Report on interview with President Vinicio Cerezo by Carmen Aristegui in Guatemala City; date not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] During an interview, Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo has talked about the state of diplomatic relations between Mexico and Guatemala.

[Cerezo] "Following the 1985 elections the Guatemalan and Mexican Governments have been constantly increasing, strengthening and deepening their relations. There is growing coincidence regarding international matters, especially the regional peace processes and the way in which we view the autonomy and [word indistinct] of our nation and the Mexican nation , which follows a traditional policy. We also coincide in our enormous interest to support and strengthen the political opening and democratic consolidating process in Guatemala.

"I am personally very pleased with this relationship and I appreciate what the two presidents [former President Miguel de la Madrid and President Carlos Salinas de Gortari] with whom I have dealt have done. They have given Guatemala their consistent support not only in political matters but also in technical matters. They have also given us economic support."

Vinicio Cerezo also talked about the topics to be broached during the upcoming meeting. These are topics he considers to be important for Guatemala.

[Cerezo] "We could divide the topics into two large groups. When broaching international matters, we will surely continue to attempt to reach an agreement and joint position regarding the Central American issue. We will talk about the recent summit, the need for the Latin American countries to support the peace process, and the search for peace through dialogue and democratization. These are issues in which it is very important for Guatemala and Mexico to be very clear on and reach an agreement.

"The debt will also be another interesting matter we will be broaching. Guatemala, like Mexico, has been trying to find a way to help the Latin American and Third World countries find a joint solution to the probem of the debt. Even though we are all trying to solve our debt problem

individually, through bilateral negotiations with international organizations, we feel that the debt is of great political importance for Latin America's social and economic future. Therefore, this will also be an important topic we will discuss.

"Regarding our national problems, I can mention three very important topics:

"Immigration: We will discuss the problems encountered by the Guatemalan workers traveling to Mexico as well as a way to make traveling between Mexico and Guatemala, and vice versa, easier.

"Environment: This is a very important issue. Mexico and Guatemala have signed agreements that are considered exemplary because they involve the protection of certain areas. This is part of a project in which several countries are involved. We are now beginning to draft what will be the Maya route project. This is a joint effort to strengthen the protection of the environment and create an awareness regarding this cultural area.

"We will also be talking about the development of the economic and commercial relations. Guatemala's balance of payments for the purchase of Mexican oil is not the best for Guatemala. For Mexico's own interest we are trying to implement an agreement to export Guatemalan food products to south Mexico. This would lower prices for the Mexican people, and for Guatemala this would represent significant foreign exchange."

President Discusses Teachers Strike 15 Aug

PA1708155189 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 16 Aug 89 p 4

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 August—During a radio and television message, one of the various messages Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo has been addressing to the Guatemalan striking teachers lately, President Cerezo said on the night of 15 August: "We will be forced to dismiss more teachers. It is legal to do that because the Supreme Court of Justice has declared the strike illegal. That decision definitively authorizes us to dismiss teachers if they refuse to go back to work within the 3 days established by the law."

Cerezo also said: "You teachers, those who have been involved in this futile movement, you can either become criminals or be unemployed. You can even become rebels if you allow some of the members of your movement to throw Molotov cocktails during disturbances or if some of you provoke disturbances that damage private property or harm people.

"We must abide by the law and we will do it. We still have time to hold talks, to avoid losing the school year, and to diminish the seriousness of the disciplinary sanctions. We still have time to form a commission to discuss the education problem and the improvement of teacher's wages for next year, which is the position we have maintained since the beginning of this problem.

"One possible solution would be that if you go back to work immediately, we would not rehire the 700 dismissed teachers for their old posts, but we would be willing to relocate them in other posts since supervisory positions have been eliminated. We are willing to pay the wages for the month of July, but we will apply a sanction of 15 days without pay. Thus, the movement will have to agree to lose at least half the wages for the month of July.

"If the teachers continue with the strike after 15 August, we will not pay these wages, because we would have to seek a legal formula to pay since the law forbids us not to pay those wages.

"If teachers do not go back to work on 16 August, we will not pay wages for the month of August and teachers will have to agree with a sanction of 30 days without pay, but if teachers go back to work, we will only apply a sanction of 15 days without pay for August.

President Cerezo added: "The government must go ahead and not only apply disciplinary sanctions and dismiss teachers, but also send all those teachers who have committed crimes to the corresponding courts. Crimes such as seizures, disruption of public order, and damage to private property are severely punished by the law. You, instead of being teachers and teachers' labor leaders, will become criminals, because you will be punished by the country's courts."

Agreement Reached; Strike Ends

PA1708203389 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] At 0400 today, the government and the teachers' association reached an agreement to end the strike that started more than 2 months ago. These are some of the most important points agreed upon:

According to the agreements reached, the salary raise announced by the president will be approved, classes will be extended to 30 November, and the teachers whose posts were eliminated will be relocated without cutting the labor benefits to which they are entitled for their time in service. In addition, a commission will be formed to study another salary raise. Corruption in the Education Ministry will be investigated. The teachers will submit a proposal to lower the cost of living. The July salaries, which are still pending, will be paid.

Classes will be resumed this morning so the agreement can be fulfilled. The government promised to stop taking reprisals, according to the most recent presidential message. The teachers will present a study to form parents' councils. The government promised to pay the teachers all the monetary benefits approved for state employees, such as a 50-quetzals vacation increase and salary raises.

Honduras

Azcona Comments on Summit, U.S. Aid, Contras

PA1708191389 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Interview with President Jose Azcona by Gustavo Rubi—recorded; date and place not given]

[Text] [Rubi] A Catholic Church representative has said that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega played his cards well and stuffed the other presidents in his pocket.

[Azcona] I would like to say that if everyone abides by the agreements as signed and does what he is supposed to do, then we will all be winners. Honduras is affected by the internal wars waged in neighboring countries because it is very easy for those wars to cross our border. If the agreements are respected, we will all come out winners.

[Rubi] But the contras do not want to leave because they do not trust the Sandinist government.

[Azcona] An agreement must be reached and the Sandinist government must support the demobilization. When huge differences exist, all the parties involved must put forth their best efforts to reach an agreement, a rapprochement. The CIAV [International Support and Verification Commission] will undoubtedly have a very important role to play in this.

[Rubi] President Azcona, do the lawyers who handle government affairs charge large sums for their services?

[Azcona] If you sue a company, that company is going to hire the best lawyers it can find and it will pay them well because much money is involved. If the state cannot hire good lawyers and pay them, then it is lost. If it cannot hire a good lawyer the state will find itself losing all its cases.

For example, if the first instance court throws out a labor case, it is taken to the second instance court, the court of appeals, and the Supreme Court of Justice. We then find that a simple case that could have been settled for 10,000 lempiras will become a case that has to be settled for 50,000 or 100,000 lempiras.

[Rubi] Is it true that there are plans to reactivate the Central American Common Market?

[Azcona] This was discussed during the meeting of the EEC, Contadora Group, and Central American foreign ministers in San Pedro Sula. I told them that I would bring this up at the summit and I did. We agreed that this should be given more thought and that the economy ministers should meet to discuss this. I believe that a free market for basic food products would be very good for the five Central American countries. It would be very good because the basic products would flow freely and we would not have the problem of beans being smuggled to El Salvador. When beans are smuggled into El Salvador the Honduran producer does not get a fair price for his product and the Salvadoran consumer has to pay a higher price for the beans. The same applies when rice is smuggled. The free flow of basic products would ensure cheaper basic products for the five countries; cheaper rice, beans, sugar, and so forth.

[Rubi] Has the government implemented precautionary measures to keep the contras in their camps?

[Azcona] Those measures are being implemented. I believe that that problem will be solved shortly and, God willing, by the time the summit in Nicaragua is held. I have promised to attend that summit as long as the Honduran president-elect is allowed to attend, otherwise I cannot attend because when that summit is held we will have a president-elect who will be assuming office on [word indistinct]. This condition was accepted by the other presidents. During the Nicaraguan summit, we will review the situation. Honduras will be represented by the president and the president-elect.

[Rubi] Is AID going to release the $70 million?

[Azcona] I have not talked to the ambassador or to AID about this. I believe a president must maintain his dignity. The country's dignity must be maintained. However, I do wish to inform you that the United States has already approved more aid to be released next year. If I am not mistaken, President Bush told me that (?$90) million in economic aid had been approved and [word indistinct] in military aid. U.S. aid for Honduras will always be approved. We have already submitted our economic plan to AID; this was done last week and [words indistinct].

Foreign Minister Views UN Border Force

PA1708161989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1933 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Honduras today officially asked the UN Security Council to establish an international peace force made up of members from Canada, Spain, and the FRG. It would be deployed, if necessary, to the border that Honduras shares with Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras said that the request will be presented today by Roberto Martinez Ordonez, Honduran ambassador to the United Nations, to Algeria's M. Hocine Djoudi, the UN Security Council's president.

Lopez added that "the deployment of Canadian, Spanish, and FRG soldiers "would be implemented only if there are still Nicaraguan contras and Salvadoran guerrillas in Honduras after the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) has done its work." [quotation marks as received]

"The international peace force would prevent Nicaraguan contras and Salvadoran guerrillas from using Honduran territory to launch actions against neighboring governments," Lopez said.

The CIAV's establishment is mandated by an accord for demobilization, repatriation, and relocation to third countries signed by Central American presidents in Tela, Honduras on 7 August.

The United Nations and the OAS were invited to participate in the CIAV, which has 90 days from its establishment to comply with the terms of the accord.

Besides having 90 days to complete its work, the CIAV, which has not yet been established, has an additional 10 days to submit a report.

The Honduran note to the Security Council states that "it is understood that with the formalization of the request to establish and deploy an international peace force and the CIAV's issuance of an official report, the Nicaraguan Government would be committed to lift its international suit against Honduras."

Nicaragua sued Honduras at the International Court of Justice in 1986 for allowing the "contras" to use its territory as a refuge and base.

The Honduran Government states that "it is convinced that the United Nations can play a valuable role in advancing the Central American peace process."

Nicaragua

RN Directorate Member Bermudez Accused of Rape

PA1808014489 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Aug 89 pp 1,4

[Text] A blood-chilling testimony about her life at the Yamales camp in Honduran territory was given yesterday by Yorlin Ubeda Rodriguez, a 23-year-old peasant of Jinotega who was in the contras' hands for 5 years and was raped by Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez [member of Nicaraguan Resistance Directorate] himself.

After two mercenaries tried to rape one of her daughters and with a death threat on their heads, she and her five children managed to escape from her captors on 13 August with the help of a Honduran. While at the office of the National Commission for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights, she revealed to the local media that 50th Anniversary Brigade members Maritza del Carmen Cubillo Molina and Marcia Chamorro are being held prisoner in Yamales, and added that some 3,000 kidnapped Nicaraguans want to return to Nicaragua. The same has been stated by the contras who were abandoned by their leaders Enrique Bermudez, Franklin, and Johnny.

Yorlin gave precise details of the mercenary leaders' orgies with the female prisoners, who were tied hand and foot and raped by the men in groups of 20. Meanwhile, the male prisoners were savagely tortured.

She also reported that the children of pregnant women who give birth in Yamales are sold for $300 and sent to the United States, where their organs are taken out for transplants.

The center of operations in Honduras is located in the Torocagua neighborhood, where a woman called Elba is in charge. "They wanted to take my children and sell them, like they do with the others, but I did not allow it," she stated.

Yorlin is a young white woman with fine features, and she appeared before the media with her children: 10-year-old Johnny, 9-year-old Carol, 8-year-old Yacaler, 5-year-old Heydi, and 15-month-old Yorlan.

"I was kidnapped on 1 August 1984 at El Tesoro Farm, located in the flatlands of Vilan, which is where I lived. I was wearing shorts and they gave me pants and a shirt to wear. Upon arriving at Las Torres I found my husband, my father, and my brother, who were with the contras. However, my finding them was useless because I fared the worst."

She entered Honduras on 23 September 1984 and "arrived at the so-called Larry McDonald base, which was under the command of my brother-in-law, Fremio Isabel Altamirano, also known as Jimmy Leo," who is now in the United States working for the CIA.

"Some policemen came for me, handcuffed me, and took me where they had the prisoners. Upon arrival I had such a horrible feeling—like nothing I had ever felt before. They undressed me and left me stark naked. They also handcuffed my feet, tied my hands behind my back, and blindfolded me," she said.

Yorlin added: "They put me in an underground place where I could not tell if it was day or night, and I remained there for several months. Later they took me out for questioning. Approximately half an hour after coming out they said they would torture me if I did not talk. They brought a rope and hung me from the neck. I felt them pulling me up and they were saying: You bitch. Will you tell the truth or not?

"They connected some wires to a car battery and burned me all over my body. Later they hung me up again and threw knives at me. I still have the marks." Yorlin breathed deeply and continued her story: "There was a place where they had four poles. They tied my legs and hands and waist. All the people participated in the tortures and rapes: Mike Lima, Bermudez, Quiche, Beny, Johnny Salazar, Cinco, Renato, and Chino Cuatro."

"We were like a circus to them. They laughed at us. They thought it was funny to keep us naked and dirty. We bled a lot because of the tortures," she added.

She also said that Martha Baltodano, member of the Permanent Nicaraguan Human Rights Commission, arrived last year and began to negotiate because the contras were running out of aid. They sent two truckloads of prisoners to justify their activities and one of the truckloads returned, but only two prisoners were sent back to the cells.

Bermudez' sadism knew no bounds when he forced Yorlin's father and brother to rape her as proof of their loyalty. Her husband, Alfredo Altamirano Montenegro, otherwise known as Venganza, tried to help her escape but he was murdered by his own buddies.

Resistance Director To Participate in Elections

PA1708232789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2028 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) Director Roberto Ferrey announced today that he will return to Nicaragua soon and participate in the country's electoral process, which will end with elections in February 1989.

Ferrey notified Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, president of the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua, and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares of his decision.

Ferrey explained in his letter that his participation in the electoral process should not be interpreted as his "giving up" the principles of democracy and liberty for Nicaragua, or as "reneging on the full support" that fighters of the different anti-Sandinist organizations have earned.

"I hope I can make my small contribution in this new form of electoral struggle, which is part of the Nicaraguans' long struggle for democracy," he added.

Ferrey announced his return to Nicaragua 10 days after the Central American presidents agreed in Honduras that the "contras" should be demobilized before 8 December.

The anti-Sandinist leader ends his letter by asserting that the struggle in Nicaragua "cannot be waged for personalities or groups," but "for liberty and democracy, which are indispensable requirements for a stable, firm, and definite peace."

Following the Central American presidents summit in Honduras on 7 August, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega termed the contras as "brothers" and invited them to return to their country and join the political struggle, for which he offered guarantees.

Ferrey is the second RN directorate member to enter into the country's political life. Alfredo Cesar returned to the country a few months ago and assumed the post of secretary general of the Nicaraguan Social Democratic Party immediately afterward.

Panama

Noriega's Adviser Says Bush's Remarks 'Nonsense'

PA1708174989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1653 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Panama City, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Attorney Renato Pereira, one of the principal advisers of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, termed "nonsense" and "senseless" the statement made by U.S. President George Bush that he does not dismiss the possibility of "seizing" the Panamanian military commander.

"U.S. politicians say senseless things. I do not believe that any serious head of state can state publicly that he is going to seize the political leader of another nation. It is nonsense; it is foolish," Pereira told newsmen.

In a press conference, Bush recalled that Noriega faces drug trafficking charges in two U.S. courts and, therefore, he did not dismiss the possibility of his capture. "Noriega has been indicted and I have vowed to ensure fulfillment of the law," Bush stated. Pereira also rejected a statement by the U.S. Government that it no longer demands Noriega's departure from Panama, only his withdrawal as commander of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP].

"As Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez stated clearly, no foreign leader, no state can ask Panama to eliminate its principal leader," Noriega's adviser stated on entering the new dialogue session being held by the government, the FDP, and the opposition this morning.

"The general is a symbol of Panamanian nationality; he is the man who has staunchly and firmly confronted the U.S. interventionist attempts," he added.

Pereira said that "Gen Noriega is very calm, aware that he is fulfilling his patriotic duty. He is in a perfectly good mood."

"He is well," he added. "Those who are not well are those who want arbitrary and totally senseless solutions for our country." Noriega's adviser also denied the charges by the Panamanian opposition about an increased deterioration of human and political rights in the country. "I do not think that the human rights situation in Panama has worsened, despite the fact that we are experiencing a special situation. This is the only Latin American state that is withstanding the presence of a foreign military force, which is ready to intervene," he added. "It is the only country in the world currently experiencing that situation. In spite of that, there have

been no disturbances , attacks on the people, or repression in Panama. We know there are people who are playing up to the U.S. alternative, which has become increasingly less diplomatic, less political, and more military," Pereira told newsmen.

"There is a state of lawfulness and respect, which I would say is quite unusual in view of the special situation of aggression we are experiencing," the general's adviser added.

Regarding the possibility that the OAS-sponsored dialogue may fail, Pereira said he does not want to speculate on what the government will do, but explained that in any event "the state is not going to topple."

Further on Criticism

PA1808005289 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2221 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Renato Pereira, adviser to Gen Noriega, has said that U.S. politicians are making senseless statements. I do not think any serious head of state can publicly say that he will kidnap the political leader of another nation, Pereira said regarding a statement made by U.S. President George Bush, who said that he does not rule out the possibility of abducting the Panamanian military leader. Pereira said that Gen Noriega is calm and aware of the fact that he is complying with his patriotic duty.

Pereira added: I do not think there has been any deterioration in the situation of human rights in Panama. Although we are facing a special situation, this is the only Latin American state that tolerates the presence of a foreign military division ready to intervene.

Pereira stressed that it is necessary that political leaders reach an agreement so that the country can recover its stability.

[Begin recording] [Pereira] I believe that there will be a solution on 1 September. The best thing would be an agreement among political leaders ensuring that the Panamanian people's aspirations —maintaining an independent national state and recovering the necessary political stability that will permit an economic recovery —are met.

[Reporter] What would be the role of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] [words indistinct]?

[Pereira] As Gen Noriega has always said, the FDP's role will be to guarantee the minimum order and calm necessary so that our country can remain as a nation and an independent national state.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] of Panamanian citizens has deteriorated considerably during the past few days, despite the dialogue. What are your comments on this? [Words indistinct] with Baena Soares prior to resuming the negotiations. What is your opinion on this?

[Pereira] I frankly do not believe that respect for human rights has deteriorated in Panama. The world knows that we are facing a special situation. This is the only Latin American state that tolerates the presence of a foreign military division ready to intervene and undermine our national state. It is the only country in the world currently facing this situation. However, despite the situation, there are no disorders in Panama and the population is not facing attacks or repression. Nevertheless, we know that there are people who are playing [words indistinct] which is less diplomatic, less political, and more military. Despite that, there is a climate of order and respect which I would describe as very rare under the special conditions of aggression we are facing in Panama. [end recording]

Solis Palma Possibly Ambassador to Spain

PA1708152489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1423 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Panama City, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Manuel Solis Palma, current minister in charge of the Presidency, will be proposed as ambassador to Madrid, when his term ends this coming 1 September, an official source has reported.

According to the source, Solis' candidacy as new ambassador to Spain has the support of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces and "strongman" of the regime.

Berta Torrijos, current Panamanian ambassador in Madrid, sister of the late General Omar Torrijos, who was the "strongman" of the regime from 1968 to 1981, will be ambassador to Caracas, Venezuela. This will take place after the government of Carlos Andres Perez approves her designation, which has been submitted for approval.

According to the Panamanian Constitution, Solis Palma must leave his post before 1 September, the date when the new president elected in the 7 May elections would have taken office had the elections not been annulled.

After the elections were annulled, the OAS began mediating to find a negotiated solution to the Panamanian political crisis. Before 1 September, there should be a transfer of power to a new government, charged with calling elections. [passage omitted]

Planning Minister Views National Development

PA1708173089 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 16 Aug 89 p A-1

[Text] "Today more than ever we must strengthen our relations with all the countries of the world which participate in and help our development, respecting our dignity, characteristics, and sovereignty, because our

national recovery efforts will not be successful owing to the interventionist presence of the U.S. Army and all of its agencies specializing in destabilization and blackmail."

Gustavo Gonzalez, Panamanian planning and economic policy minister, was speaking on behalf of President Manuel Solis Palma at the closing of a seminar on 75 years of Panama-U.S. relations organized by the Democratic Revolutionary Party Front of Professionals.

In his speech, Gustavo Gonzalez recognized the interdisciplinary effort of Panamanian professionals, who have demonstrated the ability to organize and analyze, sparking the interest of the 800 professionals attending the event. He noted that those who attended the seminar came to discuss the content and meaning of those relations, which are determined by the decision of a people and government who share the same ideals of freedom and sovereignty and struggle to be the masters of their fate without strings attached and foreign meddling.

All the distinguished speakers, including Cesar De Leon, George Turner, Julio Yau, and Jorge Ricardo Panay, deputy minister of planning and economic policy, mentioned the process of aggression against Panamanians by U.S. administrations since 1903, something which, according to Gonzalez, have deliberately undermined the possibilities for true social, political, and autonomous economic development.

"The scope and intensity of the political, social, and economic damage caused to the Panamanian people cannot be measured." However, he noted the struggle to improve our political and economic independence has not been in vain, and new challenges are emerging in which all Panamanians have an inescapable responsibility.

In this respect, he pointed to the need to redouble our efforts to rescue education and to strengthen our nationalist and forward-thinking awareness to guide the young, whom mercenary educators are now trying to confuse and mislead. That is why, he said, we need a sensible and consolidated political plan in which a participatory and functional democracy is manifested by the permanent inclusion of organized low-income sectors in the decision-making process. This must be accompanied by an economic strategy, based on recovery plans and programs, that will lead us to true and broad levels of welfare.

Opposition, Government 16 Aug Talks Reported

PA1708153989 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 17 Aug 89 p 18

[Report by Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] The opposition, represented by the so-called ADOC [Civic Democratic Oppostion Alliance], on 16 August made new demands before continuing the tripartite dialogue that seeks a national agreement to overcome the political crisis the country is in.

This time the ADOC leaders tried conditioning the dialogue to the lifting of tax resposibilities of the Corporacion Panamena de Radiofucion, S.A. [Panama City Circuito RPC Radio], which owes the government more than 5 million balboas.

After long discussions over the opposition's torpedoing efforts, the other side (Executive Branch and COLINA) stated that tax matters have nothing to do with the goals for a peaceful solution to the political crisis.

As a result of the stance taken by the Executive Branch and COLINA, the opposition withdrew its proposal and the talks continued, but without going into the discussions and the analysis of the previously made proposals, as was agreed at the last meeting.

However, government and COLINA representatives said that the threat of military intervention and the military maneuvers by the U.S Army South right in the middle of the capital "endanger national sovereignty and independece and affects the reconciliation efforts and dialogue among Panamanians."

"We cannot pretend that a dialogue exists while foreign troops take by assault neighborhoods and places in Panama City," Carlos Duque, who acted as moderator at yesterday's working sessions, said.

Continuation of agreement efforts aimed at discussing and analyzing the COLINA, ADOC, and Executive Branch proposals, without excluding any topics, are scheduled to begin at 1000 on 17 August with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, who arrived late last night on Panamanian soil.

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Due To Arrive

PA1708201289 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] The political dialogue among COLINA [National Liberation Coalition], the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], and ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] resumed this morning in the presence of OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares.

COLINA's proposal was discussed during the morning session. ADOC's proposal is supposed to be discussed on 18 August, and on 19 August, if a meeting is held, any proposal the government may present will be discussed.

In another development, it has been reported that Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez is scheduled to arrive in Panama this afternoon by air from Quito. Cordovez has headed the OAS mission ever since the negotiations between the government, the FDP, and the opposition began to seek a formula to extricate Panama from its current political crisis.

Comments on U.S. Maneuvers

PA1708221889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2108 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Panama City, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, president of the OAS mission mediating the Panamanian crisis, said today that the U.S. military maneuvers in this country "may create a climate that does not favor a dialogue."

Cordovez arrived in Panama this afternoon at a time when the dialogue between the government, military, and opposition was interrupted once again and as the largest U.S. military maneuvers in the last few months are taking place.

Virtually all units of the Pentagon's Southern Command, which includes some 12,000 troops and is based in Panama, are participating in the maneuvers.

Moreover, the Ecuadoran foreign minister asked the Panamanian parties involved in the conflict "to stop discussing academic matters because a very short time is left."

Asked by reporters about statements made by [former presidential candidate of the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] Guillermo Endara, who said there is no way to reach an agreement among the proposals that have been presented at the dialogue by the different parties, Cordovez said, "there are irreconcilable positions that are reconciled." [Panama City ACAN at 1918 GMT on 17 Aug 89 reports that Cordovez said that the Ecuadoran, Guatemalan, and Trinidadian and Tobagan foreign ministers will meet in Panama on Saturday, 19 August to "take the pulse" of the internal negotiations in the country.]

Says Problems 'Must Be Resolved'

PA1808020289 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2337 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez said this afternoon that the Panamanians involved in the solution of the national crisis should view the negotiations to promptly resolve the Panamanian problem as urgent. Cordovez, a member of the special OAS mission, arrived in Panama City this afternoon to help the parties involved in the tripartite dialogue.

[Begin recording] [Cordovez] I think any existing problem must be resolved through dialogue. That was the objective behind the establishment of this mechanism of dialogue. The better the Panamanians use it and the more they view it as urgent, the sooner a solution will be found.

[Reporter] What means will be used to achieve this? The dialogue has yet to produce any real results.

[Cordovez] Look, in these things you journalists are a little impatient. Dialogue, like any human activity, must pass through various phases. First there is a phase in which the parties establish their viewpoints, then they begin to discuss the issues in a more specific manner, and then eventually they establish points of agreement and a solution is achieved. I am convinced that this is the way to achieve a solution.

[Reporter] The United States has staged various military maneuvers in Panama this past week. Today it carried out one involving the 12,000 soldiers of the Southern Command. Do you think these military maneuvers, many of which have been carried out in the center of Panama City, contribute to creating a climate for that dialogue?

[Cordovez] I do not think so. I think the OAS resolution asked all the countries to contribute to creating a climate that will improve the Panamanians' possibilities of achieving a solution.

[Reporter] In your last visit to Panama, you said you would return if specific formulas are discussed. What is the reason for your return? Do you think we are in the final stretch of the dialogue?

[Cordovez] No, but I think specific formulas are now being discussed and that is why I am here. As I said earlier regarding the OAS member governments, I think all Panamanians and the Panamanian Government were also asked to further the conditions for achieving a solution.

[Reporter] What will the report that you will present next week include?

[Cordovez] Well, I have come to see what it should include. I hope it will basically include positive aspects. I think it is very important that....[changes thought] I honestly think that positive elements already exist. You must admit that something very special has already occurred in this situation, and this is that the Panamanians have assumed the responsibility for solving this crisis. We have helped in the establishment of a means to do this, but the Panamanians have responded in a very responsible and patriotic way because they are participating in the mechanism of the dialogue. Therefore, they have assumed the responsibility of solving the problem. They are the only ones who can solve it. There is something very positive and optimistic in that. It would have been terrible if there had been any Panamanian sectors which refrained from participating in the dialogue or if the dialogue could not have been begun because the Panamanians did not want that responsibility. [end recording]

ADOC, COLINA Members on Dialogue

PA1808002189 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2220 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Report by Maribel del Carmen Saldana Ortiz on the 17 August session of the national tripartite dialogue in Panama City—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] There is no consensus on the National Liberation Coalition [COLINA] proposal for the creation of a national reconstruction government. The Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] has rejected the proposal. Following is a statement by Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, Executive Branch representative at the tripartite dialogue.

[Escobar] "The ADOC parties' delegates first asked some questions to clarify certain issues and then made a formal presentation, objecting to the proposal presented by COLINA. I acted as moderator, and after the meeting the distinguished ADOC representatives said that they did not agree, meaning there was no consensus, to continue this afternoon's meeting—unless they were able to finish some other business. They are talking with the OAS secretary general."

The Executive Branch representative said that they must seek formulas at the highest level to solve the Panamanian problem, and they have been authorized to do so.

[Escobar] "Those of us who are participating in the dialogue, both the COLINA representatives and myself, on behalf of the Executive Branch and the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], together with the colonels and lieutenant colonels who accompany us, have been authorized to seek—at the highest level—formulas that lead to the peaceful, democratic, and Panamanian solution to the problem which afflicts the Republic of Panama.

"Referring to this, we have been fully authorized—in our case, by the Executive Branch—to work toward this goal, and we have a proposal for a government of national unity. If no agreement, solution, or consensus is reached despite all the efforts exerted in the dialogue sponsored by us and the OAS, then our authority would cease—and a solution would be sought by the appropriate authorities."

In addition, Ramon Sieiro [former COLINA vice presidential candidate] said that the ADOC has insisted on the issue of the 7 May elections, which clashes with COLINA's idea of the creation of a national reconstruction government.

[Sieiro] "A proposal was presented by the three COLINA members and the Authentic Panamenist Arnulfista Party, but the ADOC members insist that the results of the 7 May elections must be recognized. This clashes with COLINA's idea because it is based on the fact that the election results were annulled by the appropriate tribunal in the Republic of Panama. In sum, they have insisted on the issue of the 7 May elections and not on the basic issues.

"I want to warn them that in the next session, if such a session takes place and if these persons agree to participate in the next session of the dialogue, COLINA will still have the right to speak and discuss its proposal."

In addition, ADOC leader Guillermo Endara Galimany said he asked the OAS secretary general to make efforts before the Panamanian authorities to try to improve the current situation, and he made the continuation of the tripartite dialogue contingent on the success of these efforts.

[Endara] "The situation is intolerable. We asked the OAS secretary general to make efforts before the Executive Branch or before the authorities he considers suitable so that this situation [word indistinct]; in other words, to prevent the Panamanian human rights situation from worsening.

"I want to stress that Paragraph 3 of the OAS 17 May resolution expressly states that the Panamanian Government and political parties should refrain from conducting activities leading to a worsening of the Panamanian crisis. However, we have seen that the crisis has worsened considerably, and we will not tolerate that. We flatly oppose the worsening of the crisis.

"That is why we refused to hold this afternoon's meeting. We have stated that at the right moment we will inform them [not further identified] when we agree to hold another of these meetings, if we ever agree to do so.

"We hope Mr Baena Soares' efforts are successful, because we do want to solve Panama's problems through a dialogue. However, there cannot be any dialogue while there are attempts to intimidate us or while our supporters and compatriots are persecuted."

ADOC rejected the proposal presented by the COLINA parties to form a government of reconstruction.

[Endara] "We discussed the COLINA proposal. During today's meeting the COLINA representatives read and explained the proposal in detail. We rejected that proposal."

In statements regarding the rejection of the COLINA proposal, ADOC's Ricardo Arias Calderon said:

[Calderon] "When we rejected the COLINA proposal, we clarified three points: The first point is that the COLINA proposal is based on a false premise that the COLINA delegates reiterated today. COLINA bases its proposal on the premise that the 7 May elections were annulled by virtue of the U.S. aggression. To prove the

falseness of that premise, we read the document issued by the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], in which it claimed the validity of the 7 May elections.

"The second point is that the COLINA proposal goes against the statements made during the OAS foreign minister consultation meetings, because since 17 May the OAS consultation meeting has called for a transfer of power through democratic means in Panama.

"The third point is that our country's foreign problem is not only with the United States. We told the COLINA delegates that they are making a serious mistake when they view what is happening to Panama in the international community only in the light of the role played by the United States."

Defense Forces Adviser Comments

PA1808032289 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2335 GMT 17 Aug 89

[News conference given by Renato Pereira, Panama Defense Forces adviser, with unidentified reporters in Panama City on 17 August—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Pereira] ...the state will not collapse. The people in this country are serious people, and they know that the survival of the Panamanian nation is the main national interest at this point. We are going to survive.

[Reporter] But how can the dialogue make progress if both parties are totally wrapped up in a negotiation?

[Pereira] No, we are holding a dialogue. Everyone is defending his own position. We are holding a dialogue.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Pereira] I personally believe that a government with broad-based participation must be established. There must be participation by all the leaders, all the sectors, involved in national political life.

[Reporter] One month ago, you said there would be an agreement in the dialogue. One month has passed, and nothing has been achieved. Could there be a military regime, then?

[Pereira] As long as we are holding a dialogue, we will not include any formula that is not being considered by those holding the dialogue. There are three formulas: One presented by COLINA [National Liberation Coalition], another presented by the opposition, and another presented by the Executive Branch. I repeat: I am personally in favor of a government of broad participation, or rather with the participation of all the political and ideological groups in the country. In this way, we could hold elections within a short period of time, as the OAS resolution calls for. Prior to these elections, we must establish the rules of the game that will allow implementing the principles of alternation of power, which is the basis of democracy. However, this must be done without any U.S. intervention.

[Reporter] How will the government get the opposition to agree to participate in this plan?

[Pereira] The government has not made this a goal. We are holding a dialogue, and I believe everyone in the country feels the opposition should participate in a broad-based government.

[Reporter] On the basis of what interests is this dialogue being held?

[Pereira] On the basis of the national interests of the Panamanian society, of the basic interests that seek to keep our nation and our state independent. The dialogue is being held based on all of these values.

[Reporter] And how about the process of democratization and [word indistinct]?

[Pereira] This is implicit in the dialogue. The dialogue in itself is an element of the process of democratization. Prior to this, we did not have a dialogue. We were not discussing anything. Now, we are holding a dialogue, so that means we are in the process of democratization.

Supreme Court Protests U.S. Military Manuevers

PA1808022089 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2357 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice, which remains in permanent session with Magistrate President Marisol Reyes de Vasquez presiding, a few minutes ago reported that members of the U.S. Army South this morning occupied the installations where the municipal circuit court and the maritime court operate in Ancon. The occupation lasted over 3 hours.

The Supreme Court of Justice's magistrate president emphasized that this situation caused alarm, nervousness, panic, and anger among the officials, lawyers, and litigants who gather there. She added that the incident violated Panama's sovereignty and the Torrijos-Carter treaties, and hindered the administration of justice.

Given this situation, the Supreme Court of Justice's plenum condemns the events that occurred this morning in Ancon and issues its strongest protest regarding the U.S. Army's arrogant and interventionist attitude, a communique read by Supreme Court of Justice Secretary Jose Guillermo Broce states.

The document adds that the Supreme Court will ask the Executive Branch to issue, through the Foreign Ministry, a protest to international organizations regarding this new violation. The communique also reports to the

judicial organizations of the world the aggression and violations that have been perpetrated by the U.S. Army against the judicial authorities and the administration of justice in Panama.

The Supreme Court of Justice will also report what occurred to the Panamanian representatives of binational [U.S.-Panamanian] organizations for the implementation of the Panama Canal treaties, so that they can make sure that events like this will not be repeated.

Dignity Brigades Summoned to 18 Aug Meeting

PA1708172389 Panama City Radio Ritmo in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Dignity Battalion Commander Benjamin Colamarco Patino has summoned the volunteer patriots who enlisted to defend the nation's sovereignty and territory to a meeting on 18 August at 0930.

The purpose of the meeting is to inform the battalions of their instruction and training areas. Colamarco told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that the meeting will be held at the Juan Demostenes Arosemena stadium.

In April 1988 when the dignity battalions were created, approximately 10,000 Panamanians signed up—10,000, so no one can claim deceit. [as heard] However, according to Colamarco, volunteer enlistments between 5 and 10 August increased the dignity battalion troops to 20,000. That is an army.

Colamarco explained that the Ghandi Panama operation was the battalions' most important operation. They have carried out approximately six activities.

The summons to the patriot brigade members is made by the patriotic commander of the Dignity Brigade's Patriotic Coordination Command (COPACOBRID) formed by Colamarco, Commander Enrique Thompson, and Major Arturo Marquinez, retired, who teaches tactics and marching.

Operation Ghandi Panama took place on 5 July in front of Fort Clayton. The brigade members presented a letter to General Marc Cisneros, chief of the U.S. Army South, asking him to stop the continuous violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

Opposition Halts Talks Until RPC Reopened

PA1708215889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2055 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Panama City, 17 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—The Panamanian opposition again today suspended the dialogue with the military and the government and conditioned the continuation of talks on OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares' success in convincing the Panamanian regime to allow freedom of speech in the country.

Guillermo Endara, leader of the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADOC), announced that there will not be any more negotiations if the impoundment of Circuito RPC Radio and Television Network, the network with the largest audience in the country, continues.

In addition, the opposition rejected a proposal presented by the proregime parties of the National Liberation Coalition (COLINA), proposing the formation of a "government of reconstruction."

The ADOC described the COLINA proposal as "completely unconstitutional." According to ADOC leader Ricardo Arias Calderon, the Executive Branch and COLINA delegates to the dialogue "admitted the proposal is unconstitutional."

Arias said that COLINA proposes to divide the government administration in three equal parts and to distribute them among COLINA, the regime's opponents, and a third minority group.

The opposition leaders met behind closed doors with Baena Soares this morning to discuss what Endara described as a "worsening" of the human rights situation in Panama and especially the impoundment of the RPC Radio and Television Network.

The Panamanian Finance and Treasury Ministry charged the RPC network with tax evasion in the amount of $5 million. Consequently, the ministry named a government-appointed administrator, who has been running the RPC Radio and Television Network since Monday, 14 August.

The opposition characterized increasing government control over the country's most important media as "intolerable."

As for the COLINA proposal, ADOC insists that the 7 May elections, which were annulled 3 days after they were held, must be respected. The regime's opponents have claimed victory in the 7 May elections.

Arias complained that the COLINA proposal does not include the withdrawal of General Manuel Antonio Noriega as commander of the Panama Defense Forces, a condition the opposition is demanding.

RPC Impoundment 'Not Political'

PA1808031389 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2339 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Speaking on behalf of the Treasury Ministry, Eduardo Perez Arias, administrator and judicial trustee of the assets of Corporacion Panamena de Radiodifusion, RPC Radio and Television Network, explains the legal measures taken with the company.

[Perez] "It happens that the Treasury Ministry issued a tax claim [alcance] on amounts that RPC television was remitting abroad. This means the company was failing to pay taxes on rentals of foreign films and programs. That is the basis for our tax claim, which has the full support of the General Directorate of Revenue and meets all the requirements on the matter.

The amount in question totals 3,615,719,087 balboas. A proviso allows the company to use this amount as tax credit. As a curious case, it stands that Panamanian companies engaged in this activity must pay income taxes. Why shouldn't companies abroad be forced to do so also? This means the difference benefited companies abroad. This is fundamentally and solely why we decided to do the audit and impound the company."

Concerning RPC employees, Perez said that a productive and frank meeting was held with the staff.

[Perez] "During the meeting the employees voiced their unhappiness, as is logical in these cases, and said they needed an explanation. Until today, until now, no one has been dismissed. There have been absolutely no dismissals. I will tell you that the company has agreed to accept vacation leaves. Vacation leaves are being granted. However, at no time are these leaves for an indefinite period, as is being said. As we explained yesterday before all the RPC employees, the board of directors, and the general manager, when those employees' month vacation ends—they are on vacation just 1 month—they will return to their same positions, ranks, and wages, and will not suffer any demotion."

Referring to the temporary nature of the precautionary measure taken by the Treasury Ministry, he said that so far neither the company nor its shareholders are economically able to pay the money in arrears. He added:

[Perez] "That is why this case is up to our judgment and criteria. However, this case ends the very moment the company pays the debt. At that time absolutely everything will end. Contrary to what is being said, this is not a political problem. This is merely a fiscal matter. According to the law, payment need not be cash; it can be done with an insurance company's bond or goods."

Eduardo Perez Arias, RPC television and radio's administrator and legal trustee, is a professional of humble origins whose training, based on study and effort, enables him to occupy important posts like inspector and general manager. He has organized small enterprises and worked as administrative and financial adviser. He is a certified public accountant. He has a university degree in accounting and a graduate degree in international trade, specializing in international trade [as heard]. In addition, he has taken graduate courses at the Central American Institute of Business Administration and is a specialist in public administration. He has worked in the private sector and is currently a university professor. Later on, Perez commented on RPC's programming.

[Perez] "Channel 4's programming lead must be respected, and will be respected. Its programming must be credited for winning the preference of the viewers. I will add that programming will be based on the media moral code, which, as you know, includes objectivity, impartiality, and respect for human beings as persons."

To conclude, Perez made the following comment:

[Perez] "I feel very grateful for the reception by the company's top management, by the representatives of the board of directors, and most of all by the employees. I will be forever grateful to them. We think that we will handle this matter in the best of terms for the happiness of all concerned. I will add something else. My instructions as administrator not only include overseeing and recovering the Treasury's money, but also protecting the employees' funds. These are the two fundamental things we wish to settle. Based on that, all our steps will be aimed in that direction."

More Schools Closed Due to Student Disturbances

PA1708230489 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1710 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Five schools have been closed in the country due to disturbances. Meanwhile, students of the School of Public Administration of the National University are on a 48-hour strike.

Yesterday afternoon approximately 100 students of the Melchor Lasso de la Vega Arts and Crafts School in Panama City were involved in street disturbances and threw rocks at vehicles on the Transisthmian Highway. They also shouted slogans against the government for closing schools in Colon City.

The Education Ministry yesterday ordered the indefinite closure of the school. The students have seized the school, while a university commission headed by the University Vice Rector Justo Medrano and university students spoke with leaders of the Arts and Crafts School, asking them not to disrupt the university campus.

Yesterday, the Abel Bravo School of Colon was also closed because of street disturbances. The Technical Professional School of Colon had been closed earlier. In Chiriqui Province, the Felix Olivares School, the principal school of the province, the night Technical School, and the David Institute have been closed.

ADOC Leader Asks Spain To Stop Sending Aid

PA1808002389 Paris AFP in Spanish 1359 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] Madrid, 16 Aug (AFP)—Carlos Gonzalez, a Panamanian Civic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] leader, asked the Spanish Government here that "it stop giving economic aid to General Manuel Noriega's Executive Branch."

The Panamanian politician said to the press that the aid is used to "carry out a policy of repression" and that his country's biggest problem was "to find a way out of the chaos and terror promoted by General Noriega."

The opposition spokesman commented on the problems caused by the U.S. military presence in Panama and said that "it was a fight between Noriega and his former bosses" and that the Panamanian people had little or nothing to do with it.

He also referred to the Basque Fatherland and Liberty members that were deported to Panama and said "they live in a beach resort and the government gives them all types of aid."

Ritter Says UN Observers Request Not Formal

PA1808015789 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2328 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Statement by Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] We have not presented a formal request for UN military observers in Panama. We simply expressed our request or wish for the presence of military observers in Panama.

It is now the duty of our mission at the United Nations and also of the UN secretary general and the president of the UN Security Council to consult with the appropriate Security Council members to see whether the Security Council agrees to send blue berets to Panama. That process, however, is at a very preliminary stage.

The main thing we wanted to do was to draw the UN Security Council's attention to the extremely dangerous tension that exists in Panama and to the fact that war could erupt here at any time, as I pointed out at the United Nations.

Correction to Canal Chief on 'Difficult Future'

PA1708213889

The following correction pertains to the item headlined, "Canal Administrator Sees 'Difficult Future,'" published in the 17 August Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 22:

page 23, column one, fourth paragraph, only sentence make read: ...of Panamanian Parliamentarian Carlos [name as received—Panamanian nominee for canal administrator is Tomas Duque] Duque, who was...(correcting editorial notation)

Argentina

Results of Talks With UK Envoy to UN 'Promising'

PY1708234689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2331 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Aug (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo tonight stressed that today's meeting between Argentine Ambassador Lucio Garcia del Solar and Crispin Tickell, British ambassador to the United Nations, achieved "very promising" results.

Cavallo added that "regrettably" he could not go into detail "because some details are still pending due to the time difference," and announced that a joint communique will be released tomorrow at 1200 Buenos Aires time [1500 GMT].

Bomb Explodes Under CGT Leader's Car

PY1708153089 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1108 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Aug (DYN)—A medium-sized bomb exploded under one of the fenders of the car that is usually used by Saul Ubaldini, secretary general of the General Confederation of Labor (CGT). The bomb, which caused no casualties, seriously damaged the car and shattered the windows of nearby buildings.

Union spokesmen reported that the bomb exploded at approximately 2330 last night under the car that was parked in front of the CGT headquarters, where Ubaldini was attending a dinner.

According to reliable sources, its timer may have caused the bomb to go off early.

The explosion seriously damaged Ubaldini's car and shattered the windows of the CGT building and those of the Engineering School, which is located across the street from the CGT building.

In brief remarks to the press, Ubaldini said that he had not received any threats and that he did not know the reasons for the attack. Ubaldini is involved in a serious controversy with rival groups over the CGT leadership.

Ubaldini added that the car belongs to the Brewers Union and that he usually uses it to perform his union tasks.

Menem Requests Monument To Falklands Combatants

PY1808021489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0120 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Yapeyu, Corrientes, 17 Aug (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem stated here today that "we Argentines must try to find as soon as possible the path of national reconciliation for the happiness of the people," starting with "reconciliation and humility for many of us who for many years have walked the path of confrontation and frustration." [passage omitted]

Menem noted that "the time has come to pay homage to our heroes from the Malvinas" and that "here the Argentines have known how to do so." But, he added, "we are still in debt to our heroes."

He said that for this reason he had instructed his advisers to erect "a monument with plaques commemorating all the combatants in a special place in the federal capital to make federalism even greater, because most of the men who were sent to the south were from the interior."

He explained, however, that "at this time of negotiations" with Great Britain "I am not going to request the return of the remains of those who died in action in the South Atlantic," because "they are in their own fatherland, which some day will again become part of Argentina's territory." [passage omitted]

Luder Cited on Cancellation of Military Trials

PY1708221389 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1839 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Yapeyu, Corrientes, 17 Aug (TELAM)—Defense Minister Italo Luder has reiterated that the conflict within the Army will be solved by "canceling some 100 trials that the military courts have been hearing for the past 2 years."

Luder stressed that after "canceling these trials, the Army chief of staff will be allowed to enforce disciplinary measures on a case-by-case basis, because not all cases are the same."

When asked when the government will announce this decision, Luder—who is in this city to attend the commemoration of the anniversary of the death of General Jose de San Martin—said that "the time will be decided by the president."

State Reform Bill Approved by Congress

PY1808024489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2355 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Aug (TELAM)—The state reform bill approved as law by Congress today places public services, implementation of contracts in the public sector, and the public sector financial situation under a state of emergency. It also contemplates a broad program for the privatization of state-owned enterprises.

The state reform law grants powers to the executive branch to proceed with the privatization of state-owned enterprises through procedural rules allowing for the capitalization of debts they have contracted with the state, transfer of ownership, creation of corporations, and the issuance of licenses or concessions.

The bill contains 70 articles divided into 10 chapters, and lists the entities or enterprises subject to privatization or concession in two annexes.

It also establishes rules for the protection of workers, for a system of regular and emergency hiring, and for the participation of private capital, including a "participating ownership" program. The bill further establishes provisions for the privatization of social communications media currently in the hands of the state and sets rules for "the state of emergency" to be applied to contracts, debts, and other obligations, with the suspension of "sentences and arbitration rulings" implying the state's obligation to make cash payments. [passage omitted]

Menem Appoints New Defense Secretary

PY1708113389 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0036 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Aug (NA)—Argentine President Carlos Menem tonight signed the decree appointing Julio Dentone as the new defense secretary. Dentone will replace Humberto Romero who resigned because of his differences with Defense Minister Italo Luder. Dentone was the under secretary of defense, he is married to Senator Alicia Saadi and he has connections in the Air Force.

National Security Council Secretary Appointed

PY1708113489 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 Aug (NA)—The National Executive Branch today appointed former joint chief of staff Brigadier Teodoro Guillermo Waldner as the new secretary of the National Security Council. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Minister, Military Commander Discuss U.S. Aid

PY1708160389 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] A U.S. proposal to cooperate with military troops in the struggle against drug trafficking is being analyzed in high government levels. This was reported by Defense Minister Hector Ormachea Penaranda who declined to discuss the subject further until it is completely analyzed by the military high command and the president of the Republic.

Meanwhile, General Edwin Peredo, Armed Forces commander in chief, has stated Bolivia does not need foreign troops to repress drug trafficking in the country because Bolivia has well trained organizations for this purpose.

Gen Peredo said that it is not correct that the Armed Forces had requested not to participate in the struggle against drug trafficking, in fact the Armed Forces are currently providing logistic support for this struggle with helicopters and Pirana patrol boats of the Air Force and Navy.

The general added that he has not received an official notification about this U.S. proposal that is included in the Bennett plan. He said that the Armed Forces will continue to participate in the struggle against drug trafficking if the government still thinks it is necessary after the reorganization it plans to undertake.

President Paz To Visit New York in September

PY1708141589 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The travel agenda of President Jaime Paz Zamora is being prepared in Government House. The president will attend ceremonies in several Bolivian cities where his presence has been requested.

President Jaime Paz' agenda includes a trip to the United Nations headquarters in New York where he will discuss the Bolivia's landlocked situation, request greater cooperation in the struggle against drug trafficking, and ask for more comprehension and a joint action regarding the foreign debt problem.

President Paz will also travel to Titicaca Lake to meet, on board a ship, with Peruvian President Alan Garcia to discuss bilateral issues. [passage omitted]

Chief Denies Navy Drug Trafficking Involvement

PY1708030289 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Navy Commander in Chief Rear Admiral Alberto Saenz Klinsky has said that charges linking the Navy with drug trafficking are false. On the contrary, he stressed, the Navy has made great efforts to tackle this serious problem. He noted that his branch has purchased ships to fight drug trafficking, which has become increasingly powerful, as evidenced by these reckless charges. The commander said that it has been discovered that these charges were not leveled by Navy members and that an investigation will be conducted into the sources that supplied this information to the media.

The Navy commander in chief added that while the investigations are underway, no sanctions will be imposed on those who, according to a preliminary inquiry, appeared to be responsible for the charges.

The commander said that the changes taking place in the Navy staff are routine and are regulated by internal Navy statutes.

He noted that Rear Admiral Rolando Herrera Alba has been installed as Navy chief of the staff and that his predecessor has not yet been assigned to another (?post).

ENTEL General Manager Reports 1988 Profits

PY1708114389 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 12 Aug 89 p 4

[Text] The National Telecommunications Enterprise, ENTEL, made a profit of over 132 million bolivianos in 1988 through its telephone, telex, telegraphy, transmission, international, and other services.

This information was revealed yesterday by its outgoing general manager Alberto Alarcon Clavel in a news conference. He talked about the achievements made by ENTEL through several programs during the previous government administration.

He also distributed the company's 1988 balance sheet which includes current and future projects. Regarding the latter he mentioned the 13 earth stations for the national domestic service through the "DOMSAT-VISTA integration of eastern Bolivia" project.

These installations will carry telephone, telex, and data transmission nationally.

The cities which will benefit from this new service are: Cobija, Riberalta, Guayaramerin, Santa Ana, San Borja, Reyes, San Ignacio de Velasco, Magdalena, Ascension de Guarayos, San Matias, Apolo and Rurrenabaque.

He said that the purchase of a transponder for $4.5 million, using ENTEL resources, will provide overall support for the satellite domestic communications.

He labeled this purchase as one of the most important made by ENTEL because it represents real technological progress in our telecommunications. He added that through this technological progress Bolivia will have complete television coverage over the entire national territory. He said that this achievement will strengthen the feeling of nationality in the border areas through Bolivian television programs.

He also listed several current projects, including some that are almost complete. He added that all of them are being financed from ENTEL resources.

Brazil

Committee Approves Debt Payment Suspension

PY1708013289 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Text] The congressional committee that analyzes the foreign debt has approved a proposal to suspend foreign debt payments until the Supreme Federal Tribunal investigates accords that have been signed since 1983.

French Research Mission in Amazon Suspended

PY1708123489 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 16 Aug 89 p 7

[Text] Brasilia—The French Amazon research mission called "Raft on top of the trees" has been suspended by a decision of the Brazilian Government, which has asked the French Embassy to withdraw the researchers from Brazil and to suspend all filming activities.

According to a government document, the Advisory Secretariat for National Defense (SADEN) [Secretaria de Assessoramento da Defese Nacional], which has replaced the National Security Council (CSN), is not against the project and the National Scientific and Technological Development Council (CNPq) has only asked for an expansion of Brazilian participation in the project. The CNPq, which is responsible for the authorization of foreign researches, has reported that the French researchers presented their documents on 29 May and that they could be assessed up until November.

The study of the process has been suspended because of irregularities: Researchers and cameramen have been in the area with tourist visas, and the Aeronautics Ministry had not been informed of the presence of a 25-meter flying balloon that was reportedly being used to overfly the Amazon jungle to carry out botanical research. The balloon ended up making four unauthorized flights.

The Air Force attache at the French Embassy will be summoned to explain the situation, because he had reportedly said that all measures necessary for this mission had been adopted.

Considering this episode, the government has also decided to review the laws regarding the entrance of foreign scientific expeditions into Brazil. According to Decree 65067 of 1969, which is still in effect, all expeditions must be authorized by the CNPq and by SADEN. The government wants to decentralize this process. President Jose Sarney will probably sign a decree within the next few days establishing that the appropriate documents, before being evaluated by the CNPq and by SADEN, must be evaluated by Itamaraty. The expeditions will be authorized only if they suit Brazilian foreign policy.

Government Develops Satellite Communication System

PY1608035689 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Aug 89 p 22

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos—Brazil is going to develop its own satellite communication system. It will build the system with a program to be announced by President Jose Sarney late this year. According to the initial estimates, the government will invest $2 billion (6.9 billion new cruzados at the offical exchange rate) for 10 years. The main aerospace industry, universities, and research centers will participate in designing the satellite.

This program was discussed last weekend during a secret meeting of the Brazilian Commission for Space Activities (COBAE). The meeting was attended by military advisors, consultants, representatives of industry, the Aerospace Technical Center, which is under the Aeronautics Ministry; by the Space Research Institute, which is under the Science and Technology Special Secretariat of the Presidency; and by the Research and Development Center of TELEBRAS [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc].

The meeting lasted 3 days, and several representatives of the industries that will help design the satellite were contacted before and during the meeting. The meeting evaluated the technological strategy of the companies, research centers, and some of the universities that have research groups capable of helping design the main satellite system.

Several companies are already involved in preparing the program, including EMBRAER [Brazilian Aeronautics Company], which was contracted to supply the satellite's structure; TECNASA [expansion unknown], which will make transponders [preceding word in English]; AVIBRAS [Brazilian Airspace Industry], which makes antennas and earth systems; Orbit, which provides computer programs; Modatta, which will plan the guidance system of the satellite; and ESCA [expansion unknown], which will manage the subsystem.

COBAE plans to deliver a preliminary study to President Jose Sarney in the next few weeks. The study will establish the guidelines of the program to be announced by the president. There is still no preliminary information on the satellite, but the idea is to start with the specifications of a satellite with similar characteristics to the satellite that won the Communications Ministry's bidding for the second generation of Brasilsat.

Sugar, Alcohol Exports To Be Privatized

PY1608142389 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The government has decided that exports of sugar and sugar by-products will no longer depend on the Sugar and Alcohol Institute [IAA]. From now on they will be managed by the private sector.

These exports, however, will be supervised and controlled by the government.

According to the decree, the IAA will authorize private firms to export sugar only after the local market is fully supplied and reserve stocks, as established by the IAA administrative council, are guaranteed.

Those who violate the harvesting and reserve plan will be subject to the administrative penalties established by the decree. [passage omitted]

Statistics on Trade Balance, Imports Noted

PY1808011589 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] The July trade balance surplus of $1,433,000,000 showed a 35-percent decline from the previous month because imports increased to a new monthly record of $1,788,000,000—the largest monthly level since 1982. Despite this decrease in the trade balance surplus, CACEX [Bank of Brazil Foreign Trade Department] expects that Brazil can still finish this year with a $20-billion surplus.

Petrobras Ship Spills Oil in Angra dos Reis

PY1808011289 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro State—One of the most beautiful areas of the Brazilian seacoast—is endangered by an oil spill from a Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] ship. Technicians from the Rio de Janeiro environmental preservation foundation have reported that the Petrobras ship "Felipe Camarao" has spilled 50 tons of oil into the sea. The spill began at around 0100 at the Petrobras port facilities in Angra dos Reis. [passage omitted]

Chile

Pinochet Appoints Four New Cabinet Ministers

PY1708174089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1528 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Interior Under Secretary Gonzalo Garcia Balmaceda reads Decree No 1,365 of 17 August 1989 at the O'Higgins Hall in Government House—live]

[Text] According to Article 32 No 9 of the Constitution, I decree:

Article one: The following resignations are hereby accepted: Pablo Baraona Urzua as Economy, Development and Reconstruction minister; Major General Bruno Siebert Held as Public Works minister; Guillermo Arthur Errazuriz; as Labor and Social Welfare minister; General Oscar Vargas Guzman as Minister Secretary General of Government.

Article Two: Effective today the following people are appointed as cabinet members: Rear Admiral Pedro Larrondo Jara as minister of Economy, Development, and Reconstruction; General Jorge Abad Sid as minister of Public Works; Maria Teresa Infante Barros as minister of Labor and Public Welfare; Army Colonel (Cristian Lave Galilea) as Minister Secretary General of Government.

This decree must hereby be registered, filed, and published.

Signed Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, Army General, president of the Republic; Carlos Francisco Caceres, minister of the Interior.

Installation Speech at Ceremony

PY1708191589 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1555 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Speech by President Augusto Pinochet at installation ceremony of the new cabinet members at the O'Higgins Hall of La Moneda Palace in Santiago—live]

[Text] Minister, generals, admirals, under secretaries, gentlemen, Chileans. I will take advantage of this very meaningful opportunity to say something about the political situation of the country. On 11 September 1973 the Armed Forces and the Carabineros recovered for the country the possibility of establishing an authentic democracy at a time when communism was getting ready to close its fist on our freedoms following the series of abuses, mistakes, excesses, and all kinds of corruptions that were provoked or committed by the Marxist government.

Our first step was to prevent them from enslaving us, an important step in the process of recovering the dignity of the country, and reestablishing a true democratic coexistence.

On 11 September we closed a dark chapter in our history. The fact that some people are not able to realize this seems to be due to the blindness, the forgetfulness, or the passions of human nature.

Immediately after 11 September, the military government began the reconstruction of the institutional system that had been broken down and the reestablishment of the essential basis of our economic and social life. Our government, ignoring the fears of many sectors, recovered for our people values that had been lost, such as the trust in men's individual capacity to innovate and create, in their personal initiative, and in their economic freedom. We opened broad doors to the enterprising spirit and collective capacity of all Chileans.

A vast sector of our people lived in extreme poverty and were regularly ignored by politicians in pursue of their own political ambitions. It was essential to help these fellow countrymen to escape from the destitution in which they lived. But we did not know their numbers or their whereabouts. The military government ordered the necessary studies, the first of their kind in our history, and established as a priority the unavoidable duty to help the poorest sectors through the implementation of government sponsored social programs.

Then we had to rescue vast zones of our territory that were completely neglected. For years it was reiterated that there was an urgent need to revitalize the provinces and to promote their development, even if it was only to prevent the unchecked growth of the capital.

The answer to these claims was a long silence and indifference from those responsible. Our government then decided to regionalize the country, grant a reasonable and necessary autonomy to these regions, and to sponsor programs to encourage their prosperity and progress. The construction of the Austral Highway has opened 140,000 square kilometers of our territory. Vast unknown riches lie in these territories.

The opening of the remotest corners of our country is the best symbol of the rescue operation that began on 11 September 1973, and that has been entirely successful.

We are satisfied at having established a solid basis for a stable and sustained development in all fields, which shows the great difference between a military government and a government which only serves partisan interests, because the former government seeks only to serve the country.

Within this spirit we have faithfully complied with our commitment of reestablishing democracy, which had been destroyed by the same people who today are the hard-liners and who think of themselves as the bastions of democracy.

Ladies and gentlemen: I am aware of the fact that this country needs to consolidate and to continue with the authentic progress it has experienced in all fields. I have considered it necessary to restructure the cabinet. Therefore, with great gratitude to the dedication, professionalism, and love for the motherland with which they have served Chile, I have decided to accept the resignation of Pablo Baraona Urzua as Economy, Development, and Reconstruction minister; Major General Bruno Siebert Held as Public Works minister; Guillermo Arthur Errazuriz as Labor and Social Welfare minister; General Oscar Vargas Guzman as Minister Secretary General of Government; and Sergio Melnick Israel as National Planning Office director.

Each one has clearly demonstrated his spirit of service and efficiency, meaningfully contributing to the progress of their respective fields. Thus, I have nothing else to tell them but to wish them good luck in the new activities they will begin, since the motherland needs sons like them to continue on the path of development and well-being, at which we have arrived.

Those of you who are cabinet members, I remind you that you have been selected based on your merits and virtues, which you have to prove to the citizenry through the work you will carry out.

Gentlemen, today you are joining a team (?overburdened) with work, and your main task is to maintain the government's active presence in all national activities for the benefit of our fellow countrymen.

Therefore, you must never forget the need to defend, consolidate, and continue the institutional task of our government; you must not fail to commit yourselves to your duty, the future stability, the maintenance of the current peace and order, and the improved well-being of the Chilean family, depend on this.

Fellow countrymen, our country is making solid and sustained progress in freedom along the path of progress and development, seeking to attain a full democracy and a (?real) social justice. I call on all Chileans to objectively evaluate the task done by the government of the Armed Forces and the forces of order in recovering this modern democracy, and on this base to define with responsibility the future of our motherland, thus ensuring the future of its children. Viva Chile! [applause]

President Preparing Post-Election Army Office

PY1708030089 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 11 Aug 89 p 6

[Text] Reliable Army sources have reported that Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet is planning to move his office to the Army Headquarters in December this year following the general elections.

The work to enlarge the Army Headquarters on the fifth floor of the Defense Ministry has been stepped up this month and is expected to be finished by the end of August.

For many years the Army Headquarters occupied only the northern part of this floor, which overlooks Bernardo O'Higgins Avenue. The enlargement project will require that the National Defense General Staff and the Telecommunications Department be moved elsewhere. The Army Headquarters will take up the entire floor from north to south.

The sources added that the project also provides for changes in offices and facilities.

The latest in communications equipment will be installed on the fifth floor to cope with the requirements of the institution.

By setting up his headquarters at the Defense Ministry, the chief executive will emphasize the fact that the people will have chosen their president on 14 December, and that only 90 days will be left before the transfer of power. Without entirely leaving La Moneda Palace, Pinochet will carry out most of his activities at the Defense Ministry and, at the same time, prepare to transfer power and direct his full attention to his duties as commander in chief of the Army. Pinochet will address this subject in a speech on 23 August, his 16th anniversary as Army commander in chief.

Buchi on Human Rights, Military Cooperation

PY1708130589 Santiago LA SEGUNDA in Spanish 4 Aug 89 pp 14-17

[Breakfast interview granted by Presidential Candidate Hernan Buchi with LA SEGUNDA reporter Pilar Vergara—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Vergara] One increasingly important issue that will be viewed during your campaign refers to human rights violations. People have already begun to ask you how, as a government official, you have lived through situations as the case of the beheaded people, of those burned alive, and that of Tucapel Jimenez...

[Buchi] I want to stress that I am really concerned over the human rights issue. I reject, and I am deeply concerned about those actions against the people, against their physical integrity, and against their lives. Regardless of where they come from, I am always affected by those actions, and I am concerned about them. I believe that those responsible for these actions must, in accordance with the laws, be punished. This is the first thing I want to stress. [passage omitted]

[Vergara] Now, over the past few days you referred to something that has really hit the front pages of the newspapers: the dialogue between the Armed Forces and the politicians. You talk about it as if you really know how to work with members of the Armed Forces.

[Buchi] I think that dialogue is valuable provided that it leads to integration among the different sectors of society. When and how that dialogue will begin must be decided by the commanders in chief of those institutions, taking into account their positions as professionals within hierarchically organized institutions.

We must first define what we are talking about when we refer to a dialogue with the Armed Forces. We must understand that it implies that the commanders in chief are willing to receive information and to analyze it in accordance with their own procedures. For this reason, I believe that the decision must come from them, from the commanders. Of course I think this dialogue is useful and convenient.

[Vergara] Should it be held now?

[Buchi] Yes. [passage omitted]

Government Junta Rehabilitates Socialist Leader

PY1708120089 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 11 Aug 89 p C-3

[Excerpts] Electoral Service Director Juan Ignacio Garcia yesterday reported that during its meeting on 8 August the Chilean government junta restored full citizen's rights to socialist leader Luciano Valle, who will thus be able to run for the Chamber of Deputies for District No 10 on the Coalition of Parties for Democracy ticket. [passage omitted]

The Court of Appeals ruled on the same day in favor of a writ of amparo submitted by Valle because his registration as a candidate had been canceled. The socialist leader was indicted in 1973 for violating the law on arms control and was sentenced to prison. This sentence was later reduced to banishment. Upon returning to Chile, Valle took advantage of Decree Law 2191 (amnesty law) to straighten out his legal situation. [passage omitted]

Air Force Plans To Purchase FRG-Made Planes
PY1708220189 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] General Fernando Matthei, commander in chief of the Chilean Air Force [FACh], has announced that the Halcones Squadron will be replaced with FRG planes. Gen Matthei made this announcement as he accepted the trophy won by the Halcones Squadron in Great Britain for the best international air exhibition. This squadron made seven presentations totaling 120 hours in front of an estimated 600,000 people.

It was announced that the planes that will replace the U.S.-made Pitts aircraft flown in the exhibitions will be FRG-made. This FRG model was rated in the top five for acrobatic flight; it costs slightly more than one wheel of a Mirage combat plane.

Maiers Pardo Designated 10th Region Intendant
PY1708114189 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Aug 89 p C-5

[Excerpt] Puerto Montt—Julio Maiers Pardo, who was secretary of planning and coordination at the regional intendency for 9 years, has been named intendant of the 10th region, which is known as the region of the lakes. [passage omitted]

Debt to Private Banks Reduced to $6 Billion
PY1708214389 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Chile's foreign debt to private banks has been substantially reduced in recent months, from more than $12 billion down to just $6 billion. This information was provided by former Foreign Debt Coordinator Hernan Sommerville at a seminar on the external debt. He also said that the foreign debt is no longer a problem for our country, and that the important thing now is to maintain the inflow of foreign capital to finance our domestic development.

Ricardo French Davis contended that the transfer of resources abroad must be stopped and noted that the program of the Coalition of Parties for Democracy proposes a better distribution of revenues.

Rise in Industrial Production Reported
PY1708113789 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 11 Aug 89 pp A-1, A-12

[Excerpt] The National Institute of Statistics has reported that industrial production rose 10.3 percent during the first half of this year as compared to the same period last year. Sales also increased by 11.1 percent. [passage omitted]

MIR Strongly Promotes Left in Open Letter
PY1708140389 Santiago ANALISIS in Spanish 7-13 Aug 89 p 44

[Open letter released by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, to the Chilean people, to the left, and to the opposition]

[Text] The MIR has conducted a struggle over the years against the dictatorship seeking to strengthen the democratic struggle and to achieve a society where men and women will have the right to decide the destiny of the nation. We will continue to struggle for a fully democratic country in which the masses will be responsible for representing society, and not a situation where some, in the name of society, take over the government to take advantage of it. We believe that the struggle for socialism is an event that goes along with current times and this is why we directly link the struggle for people's rights and democratic achievement with the process of building a popular social force capable of assuming the task of a democracy without capitalism. The events of 1983 to 1986 and the victory of the No-vote in the plebiscite are the result of the initiative, struggle, and unity of the people. This is why no one, no organization, people, or party, can claim responsibility for that struggle.

1. We are convinced that the most important task of the workers and of all the people is to strengthen the victory achieved in the 5 October plebiscite. This will require greater unity, better organization, and more strength to inflict an overwhelming electoral defeat to the forces of the dictatorial regime next December.

2. Last January, the MIR proposed that the left independently take part in the electoral political struggle. With that in mind we pointed out the need to name a leftist presidential candidate as well as congressional candidates to represent the popular sectors.

This proposal was not accepted by the left which decided to subordinate itself to the policies of the coalition of opposition political parties. The left rejected the idea of its own presidential candidate and ended up with a weak representation to face the congressional elections. The struggle of the masses was not strengthened and the political struggle was restricted to the cadres of the party. This has favored a situation in which the antidictatorial unity came under the control of the opposition middle class.

3. We are witnessing an effort of the most reactionary forces of the middle class to take the initiative and project themselves into the future without allowing any major changes in the 1980 Constitution or the economic model. This is reflected in the struggle between Jarpa and Buchi for the presidential candidacy of the right, and in the attitude of the big businessmen and the Armed Forces which seek to impose the policies of the dictatorship.

The polarization in the upcoming December presidential elections, in which the candidates of the regime and of the opposition will confront each other, shows that in the electoral political arena there is no alternative but to reject the plan to continue with the current government policies and to call on the people to vote for Patricio Aylwin.

However, in calling the people to vote for Patricio Aylwin the MIR will not remain silent about the criticism made by the workers and the left of the presidential candidate, his program and how he was nominated.

The MIR will also struggle for the victory of the congressional candidates of PAIS [Broad Party of the Socialist Left] first, for the PPD [Party for Democracy] second, and for the rest of the opposition in the districts where there are no PAIS or PPD candidates.

4. The December elections will not solve the democratic struggle. They are only a part of our people's long struggle to achieve democracy. The transition will lead to democracy only if the large masses of workers, housewives, students, peasants, professionals and so forth take the struggle for the defense of their democratic interests in their own hands.

The goals for which the popular movements fought in our country have not yet been fulfilled. Their fulfillment will allow the people to have a direct influence on the construction of a just, authentically democratic, and socialist society.

5. The left is part of the social history of our people. It is a force which cannot be erased by dictatorial terror. There is a large sector among Chileans who share a cultural and political identity with the left. We will work within that sector to see that the unity of the people will be built around the leftist positions which represent the feelings of millions of Chileans.

6. The MIR will continue to lead the democratic struggle. It will mobilize the masses for the annullment of the laws which restrict or prevent the organization of the workers, for the dismantling of the antidemocratic 1980 Constitution, for the redistribution of income, for truth and justice, and for the punishment of those who have committed crimes against the people.

The degree of democracy of the next government will depend on whether it listens, stimulates, and resolves the demands of the people or on whether it limits, prevents on does not provide solutions.

In this regard the MIR will carry out its electoral work based on a program of demands which will be prepared by the masses themselves in their fronts and basic organizations.

We will organize and mobilize the electors to make their demands to the presidential candidate and to the congressional candidates now, and to the government of the coalition of political parties after the elections. To do that we will organize the demands with the creation of grassroots committees of struggle for democracy for the participation of the people in the electoral struggle.

7. The MIR will continue toward the unity of the people and the victory of the poorest sectors. Our main activity will be to struggle for democratization at the municipal, sectorial, and national level, for the defeat of those who want to continue the same policies. We will struggle to put an end to the dictatorship and to authoritarianism in our country.

The MIR will continue to be with the large masses of the people in the task of merging the struggle for democratic transition with the struggle to build a new and socialist society seeking an authentic democracy, a democracy without capitalism.

MIR Political Committee, 3 August 1989.

Socialist Youth Factions Announce Alliance

PY1708221689 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The Union of Socialist Youth [Union de Jovenes Socialistas] was officially created today. The union is made up of the Socialist Youth of the Almeyda faction and the Socialist Youth Federation of the Arrate faction.

(Jaime Andrade), secretary general of the Almeyda faction, said the two groups will work together to accelerate the process of unifying socialism. [passage omitted]

Bomb Explodes at Bank Office in Valparaiso

PY1708223389 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Report from Valparaiso by Jose Manriquez Contreras]

[Text] A bomb exploded early this morning at the intersection of Francia Avenue and Chacabuco Street in Valparaiso.

The explosion, which was heard by people in Cerro Placeres, Playa Ancha, and Cerro Alegre, destroyed the front door of the local branch office of the Edwards Bank.

The police were notified at about the same time that there was another bomb in 11 de Setiembre Square. A special police unit was sent to the square, and some shots were heard a few minutes later at the intersection of Francia and Independencia Streets. This led some people to believe that a clash had taken place, but the police denied it.

Colombia

Country's Judges, Magistrates All Resign

PA1808005689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0007 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Colombia is in utter chaos today. The country's magistrates resigned today to protest the murder of Colombian Justice Carlos Valencia, and a few minutes ago the ASONAL [National Association for the Judicial Branch] judges also tendered their resignations. Meanwhile, the government is desperately attempting to convince them to go back to their jobs.

Today, the 54 magistrates who compose the Civil, Labor, and Penal Courts of the Bogota Superior Tribunal tendered their resignations until the government guarantees them safety and protection for their lives so that they can dispense justice in Colombia.

The murder of Justice Carlos Valencia Garcia led the Colombian magistrates to suspend all legal proceedings. The magistrates of the Bogota Superior Tribunal said they do not want to leave the country but added that they do not want to be the next victims either.

[Begin unidentified judge recording] We feel we are waging a useless struggle. We are fighting for ideals that nobody shares. What we want is for the country to begin to share those ideals. When that happens, we, the Colombian judges, will be willing to give up our lives for those ideals as Carlos Valencia Garcia did. [end recording]

The 22,000 Judicial Branch employees joined the magistrates' protest. The Judicial Branch Public Employees Association called for an indefinite strike, beginning today.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] The government's promises have been only that, promises. The truth is that the plan to provide protection, escorts, and armored vehicles has not been implemented.

In addition, we believe that to end this wave of murders the government must show the political resolve to eradicate it. The government must confront this problem by using our Armed Forces with due respect for human rights. As long as that is not done, not only judges, but the best children of Colombia, will continue to die. [end recording]

The wife of the murdered magistrate arrived from Guatemala today for the funeral.

More on Judges Resignations

PA1708200489 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Two criminal attacks, the resignation of three judges, and a 24-hour strike by workers in the judicial sector—this sums up the judicial situation in Colombia over the past 20 days. The chaotic situation unleashed in Bogota last night with the assassination of Justice Carlos Valencia began on 28 July in Medellin, when motorized paid assassins murdered third public order Judge Maria Elena Diaz. Diaz' murder unleashed a wave of protests; 17,000 employees from the legal sector staged a strike on 1 August and forced a statement from the government.

[Begin President of National Association of the Judicial Branch Antonio Suarez recording] I am warning the country that the next murder in the judicial branch will necessarily result in the collective resignation of all the judges. [end recording]

Protective measures have been adopted for all judges and work continues. On 14 August, due to death threats against his daughter, first public order Judge Alvaro Medina Moreno, who was investigating the Wanumen arms-trafficking case and the attack on the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] director, announced his resignation. Two days later on 16 August, due to death threats, the eighth public order judge in Medellin who was investigating the governor of Antioquia's murder, resigned.

Shortly before Justice Valencia's murder yesterday, the seventh public order judge in Bogota, who was investigating the search of a building in northern Bogota, decided to resign and leave the country. To conclude, the intimidation of judges led to Valencia's murder last night in downtown Bogota.

[Begin unidentified witness recording] Two people approached Valencia and began shooting at him. Valencia's bodyguards stooped down; they did not have time to respond. When their attackers fled, the bodyguards came out and began shooting wildly. It was a dangerous situation for people in the area. [end recording]

Stupefied by the criminal attacks on the judicial sector, the government is seeking ways to solve the problems of intimidation.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 1824 GMT on 17 August reports that "Antonio Suarez Nino, president of the National Association for the Judicial Branch

(ASONAL), has reported that all of Colombia's judges today presented their resignations because of the assasination last night of Justice Carlos Valencia Garcia.

"The president of ASONAL announced the resignation en masse of the country's judges, saying they will present their resignations at the country's higher courts, and he requested a meeting with Colombian President Virgilio Barco.

"ASONAL President Antonio Suarez said that 'in response to this horrible massacre of the Judicial Branch, we have decreed an indefinite strike and the resignation en masse of all the judges, because the Colombian people are not in any condition to continue killing each other with impunity while the Executive Branch looks on almost complacently.'"

"ASONAL issued a communique stating that 'this government lacks the authentic political resolve to guarantee and protect the integrity and lives of illustrious fellow patriots such as Valencia.'"]

Rome-Based Journalist Gunned Down Near Medellin
PA1708043489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0345 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Bogota, 16 Aug (EFE)—Colombian journalist Juan Gabriel Caro Montoya, a member of the Foreign Press Association in Rome, was killed today in Bello, a town near Medellin, in northwestern Colombia, the police officially reported.

The 37-year old journalist, who had lived in Italy for the last 18 years, was shot several times while talking with some local residents in a store.

According to eyewitnesses, several persons entered the shop and, without saying a word, fired several shots at the newsman and fled.

Relatives of the victim said that Caro Montoya recently arrived in Colombia to do some reporting on Colombia and Central America.

Caro Montoya was the foreign correspondent in Italy for Bogota's EL SIGLO and Medellin's EL MUNDO.

The assassination of Caro Montoya brings to 40 the number of journalists who have been assassinated in Colombia in the last 10 years, most paramilitary bands or groups of drug traffickers.

Among the journalists who have been assassinated is Guillermo Cano, the editor of Bogota's EL ESPECTADOR, who was killed on 17 December 1985.

MORENA Linked With Paramilitary Groups
PA1608193189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2157 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] Bogota, 15 Aug (DPA)—Colombia's secret police today insisted that the recently created extreme rightist group, the National Restoration Movement (MORENA), has ties with paramilitary groups that have been charged with the assassination of hundreds of political and labor leaders in the country.

The creation of MORENA was announced a few days ago as a way to fight "any leftist tendency," following a "summit" of peasant self-defense groups which many sectors believe are mercenary squads financed by the powerful drug trafficking mafias.

According to Brigadier General Miguel Maza Marquez, director of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS)—the state's secret corps—the members of the new political group were involved in several peasant massacres perpetrated over a year ago in the northwestern banana region of Uraba.

Maza Marquez, who miraculously escaped from an attack planned by paramilitary groups and drug traffickers—according to the secret police—said that the charges against MORENA leaders are the result of investigations carried out by public order judges.

The bloody massacres were attributed, since the beginning, to this type of organization, which even has several "gunmen's schools" in a vast region along the Magdalena River, with Israeli, U.S., British, and FRG terrorists as instructors.

As a result of the investigations of the attack against Maza Marquez, the authorities have taken the first steps to clarify a suspected infiltration of drug trafficking groups in high government circles, which has implicated former Interior Minister Raul Orejuela Bueno.

In view of frequent death threats against his family, on 14 August Alvaro Medina Moreno, 1st Court public order judge, was forced to resign from an investigation he was directing regarding the possible drug traffickers' infiltration and the attack on Maza Marquez.

In an allusion to [words indistinct], Colombian President Virgilio Barco said that "neither intimidation nor violence aiming at promoting political ideas or at attaining power have a place in a democratic system."

President Barco added: "A movement that uses coercion or force to attain its goals—even if it does so indirectly—must be excluded from the democratic, political campaign."

One of MORENA's statements that has raised the most concern in the country is MORENA's top leader Armando Valenzuela Ruiz' thesis that communists will be defeated with votes and, if not, they will be defeated with weapons.

ELN 'Drasticially' Increases Terrorist Actions

PA1608155289 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 89

[Text] The Colombian Army of National Liberation's [ELN] actions have drastically increased during the past 24 hours. Fifty ELN men attacked the Tamalameque Police headquarters at 0130. Policeman Hector Bautista Arias was killed, another agent was wounded, and another is missing. At 0530, a hundred and fifty men from this same rebel organization installed a roadblock, punctured the tires of 400 vehicles and painted them with ELN slogans, all this on the Bucaramanga-Barrancabermeja road. An ECOPETRAN [not further identified] truck that services ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] was set on fire. ELN men alsao ambushed El Zarzal officials with an explosive device and wounded two policemen. To top it all, ELN men also set two tractor trailer trucks on fire on the coastal road near Curumani municipality. The cost of the vehicles that were set on fire is higher than the cost of damaging a part of the Cano-Limon Covenas pipeline as each of these vehicles cost approximately 50 million Colombian pesos. ELN rebels also set fire to a bus that belongs to the Expreso Brasilia firm in San Roque. As can be noted, the ELN has concentrated its actions to a very specific region ,as if they wanted to control that area.

Peru

Garcia Reiterates Position on Panama Situation

PY1808000889 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 9 Aug 89 p A-4

[Text] Speaking on behalf of the Peruvian Government, President Alan Garcia on 8 August reiterated his position on the situation in Panama following the 7 May elections. The president also reiterated his absolute support for democracy and his solidarity with the decision made by the Panamanian people in the last elections.

After meeting for more than 1 hour at Government House with Panamanian politicians Ricardo Arias Calderon and Guillermo Ford, who were elected first and second vice presidents, respectively, in the last elections, the Peruvian president said that without freedom it is impossible to speak of sovereignty.

Alan Garcia said: "No people can excersise real sovereignty over their wealth and their territory if they are not free to make decisions. The sovereignty of a country cannot be indentified with a man or with a uniform. It must be understood that a nation can be sovereign only if it is aware of its right of ownership and it is willing to exercise this right. In the Panamanian case, this right refers to the ownership and operation of the canal."

The two Panamanian leaders informed President Garcia about a plebiscite which, subject to the approval of General Noriega's government, might be held on 20 August. They said that this proposal was formulated within the OAS, that all the chiefs of state had been informed about it, and that all of them supported it.

"I believe it is an interesting proposal that should be analyzed by all Latin American nations and by the Panamanian Government," Alan Garcia said, adding that the decision to disregard democracy and the will of the Panamanian majority has jeopardized the process of full nationalization of the canal.

After recalling the post-election incidents in Panama, President Garcia reiterated the Peruvian position, "which was expressed before the incidents, and which caused us to raise the issue directly at the OAS, demanding respect for the election results."

President Garcia said that "the members of the winning presidential ticket have proposed a plebiscite to ask the people whether they agree with the proposal formulated by the government (that is, a temporary government) or whether they support the ticket that won the elections."

Garcia added: "I hereby call on the Panamanian people to uphold their decision. I believe that Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega understands, or he should understand, that sovereignty over the canal and Panamanian sovereignty are not identified with a person; on the contrary, this situation has jeopardized the economic stability and well-being of Panamanians and their ownership of the canal."

The president said that the two Panamanian leaders expressed to him their will to enforce the treaties that will give Panama full sovereignty over the canal and full powers to operate it in a few years.

Public Transport Workers Join Widespread Strikes

PY1808031289 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2023 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Lima, 17 Aug (EFE)—Union sources have reported that a sector of the Lima public transport network today staged a 24-hour strike, joining doctors, mineworkers bank employees, and some public employees to demand salary increases.

The number of strikers has now risen to at least 120,000 people. This number will double if the state teachers make good their threat to stage a national strike on 24 August.

The situation in Lima could be further aggravated if 400 gas station owners decide to close these stations tomorrow to force the Peruvian State Petroleum Agency (Petroperu) to grant them a great profit margin from fuel sales.

Meanwhile, the powerful, communist-oriented General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP) has called for its thousands of members to stage a march to the government palace in Lima tomorrow to ask Peruvian President Alan Garcia to resolve the labor conflicts.

To counteract the public transport sector strike the government has authorized owners of enterprises to let their employees leave for home 2 hours earlier.

Public transport drivers, who serve at least 1 million passengers, daily are demanding a 50-percent fare increase that would increase the price of public transport tickets to the equivalent of $.15.

A spokesman for the mineworkers federation today told the press that 40 workers, including 5 leaders, were detained by the police in camps in the central mountain region and that police raided the federation's office in Lima but failed to arrest the unionists. [passage omitted]

Changes in Soviet Fishing Fleet Off Coast Noted

PY1808004289 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish
9 Aug 89 p 6

[Text] With the addition of the ships "Podmoskovye" and "Vorkhoyany," the Soviet fleet of factory ships continues to increase. The resolutions from the General Directorate of Ports and Coast Guards [DGCG] for the addition of those two ships were published yesterday in the EL PERUANO official gazette.

These two new ships bring to 27 the number of large ships from the Soviet fishing fleet operating off the Peruvian coast. Twenty-one are factory ships that catch the fishm (merluza, jurei, and caballa); five are support ships that transport the catch; and one is a fuel tanker for the entire fleet.

Since the Navy Ministry—through the DGCG—canceled the navigation permit for the "Kapitan Ardeev" factory ship and granted navigation permits for the new factory ships, the Soviet fleet now has 21 ships, one more than stipulated in the fishing contract signed by Peru and the Soviet Union.

The "Podmoskovye" and "Verkhoyany" are 3,000-ton gross weight ships and are authorized to fish in Peruvian maritime waters, excluding those zones in which the operation of this type of ship is prohibited under the contract regulations.

Both ships must be subjected to regulations on security, communications, and filing of satellite information to allow observation of their position while operating in Peruvian waters.

On 31 July, the DGCG suspended the navigation permit of the factory ship "Kapitan Ardeev." This resolution was published in yesterday's issue of the EL PERUANO official gazette.

The maritime authorities did not divulge the reasons behind the cancellation of that ship's navigation permit. The request for cancellation was made by the Legal Advisory Office and the DGCG's Directorate of Control over Maritime, River, and Lake Interests.

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